

## STILETTOS - THE HEIGHT OF FASHION AGAIN

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## CUT-PRICE PENGUINS



## THE CURSE ON ENGLAND'S CAPTAINS

Simon Barnes on the loneliest jobs  
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## PLUS THE RACE FOR THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Simon Wilde on the contenders  
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# Only my sons keep me in Britain, says 'victimised' Princess

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

IN an extraordinary interview with a French newspaper, Diana, Princess of Wales, has lashed out at the British press, condemning the former Conservative Government as "hopeless" and declared that she would have left Britain years ago but for her children.

The press is "ferocious," the Princess said, after choosing a photograph of herself embracing a dying Pakistani boy for a *Le Monde* series on memorable photographs. "It never forgives anything. It is only interested in mistakes. Every good intention is diverted, every gesture is criticised. I believe that abroad it is different. There I am received with

kindness, they take me as I am, without judgment, without lying in wait for slip-ups. "The reverse is true in Britain. I think in my position any sane person would have left long ago. But I cannot. I have my sons," she said.

## La princesse au grand cœur

From yesterday's *Le Monde*

great work. Its predecessor was really hopeless." The Princess also takes a veiled swipe at the Royal Family for cramping her style. "From the moment I came into this family, nothing of any sort could be done naturally," she told Mme Cojean. But since the announcement of her divorce, the Princess said, "No one can tell me how to behave. I work by instinct. That is my best adviser."

"Over the years, I have had to learn to ride over the criticism. The irony is that this has been useful to me by giving me a strength I never thought I had. Which is not to say that it has not hurt me. But it has given me the strength to continue on the road I have chosen." Asked to describe her role, she said: "I would use the word messenger."

The Princess said her ability to make contact with ordinary people had prompted a snobbish backlash in Britain. "I feel close to people, whoever they are... that is why I annoy certain circles. Because I am much closer to people at the bottom than at the top, the latter do not forgive me. Because I have a real relationship with the most humble people. "Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to try to help the most vulnerable people in society. This is an aim and henceforth an essential part of my life. A sort of destiny. I will run to whoever calls me in distress, wherever they are."

Diary, page 17

# Immigration right for gay partners

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is poised to give hundreds of foreign nationals in homosexual relationships with British citizens the right to settle in the UK following a Home Office review of immigration laws.

The change is also expected to apply to heterosexuals who are not married but are in long-term relationships.

Home Office officials have been reviewing regulations applying to homosexuals, lesbians and live-in lovers since May and an announcement is expected when Parliament returns in October.

Under current laws foreign nationals in homosexual relationships with British citizens have no automatic right to remain in the UK. The law applies to people from states outside the European Union and also includes people in heterosexual relationships.

Last night a spokeswoman for Stonewall, the gay rights campaigning organisation, said that marriage alone was never enough to satisfy entry requirements to the UK. "The Home Office has to be concerned whether it is a genuine relationship. This should apply to gays as well as heterosexuals," she said.

"We think that whatever the test applied to whether a relationship is permanent or not, there should not be discrimination between gays and heterosexuals."

Although a change to the immigration rules in such a sensitive area could cause

some embarrassment to the Labour Government, Jack Straw the Home Secretary, has committed himself to fair and effective immigration controls.

Yesterday an Appeal Court judge adjourned a case involving a challenge by a Brazilian man, aged 39, against a ruling that he must leave Britain and return to his home country.

Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Morritt were to hear the man's application for leave to appeal but postponed the case after hearing that the Home Office was considering changing the policy.

The Brazilian came to Britain in 1988 to study for a PhD and after gaining his qualification was given leave to remain in the country until June 1995 as a research fellow. He applied for an extension "on the basis of a close and committed homosexual relationship with a UK national".

His application was rejected and after appeals to an immigration special adjudicator and the Immigration Appeals Tribunal also failed, he applied for leave to appeal.

At yesterday's hearing the two judges adjourned the case until November because of the potential change in policy.

Lord Justice Simon Brown said: "The basis for adjourning this application is that a heralded or anticipated change in government policy may make it unnecessary to pursue any formal appeal."

"It is said there have been indications given by the Government to the applicant's solicitors that a policy change is under active consideration and there are apparently instructions in place that appeals in this matter should not be heard."

Home Office sources confirmed last night that while the review of the regulations was under way, homosexual immigrant partners of either sex who risked being deported under existing rules would be allowed to stay.

Currently overseas nationals wanting to live in Britain K must prove they are legally married, or intend to do so within a reasonable period.

Until 1996 a heterosexual foreigner involved in a two-year "common law" relationship with a British citizen could apply for residency but this concession was withdrawn when it was suggested the same rule should apply to gay couples.

The current laws relating to gay relationships are similar to those in many other countries, including America, Canada and New Zealand.

Ann Widdecombe, a former Home Office Minister, gave a warning that if the regulations changed, the Government would further weaken Britain's immigration controls. "For all their tough talk they are undoing much of the rigour which we applied to people seeking to come to Britain."



F.W. de Klerk, the leader of South Africa's National Party, announcing his departure from politics in Cape Town yesterday. Report, page 10. Man they couldn't forgive, page 16

# France may tax workers for doing too much

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE French Government is proposing to cut the working week by four hours to 35 hours by July 1, 2000, according to a Labour Ministry document leaked yesterday.

Anyone working more than 39 hours a week from next year will face tough new taxes. A promise to reduce the working week in a bid to tackle chronic unemployment formed the centrepiece of the successful socialist election campaign earlier this year, despite complaints from business leaders that it would affect productivity and could lead to job losses.

Martine Aubry, the Labour Minister, may announce the plans today. *Le Monde* reported. According to the advisory document the Government is also considering the imposition of a taxation surcharge on work over 39 hours from 1998. The Labour Ministry said that Mme Aubry, the daughter of former European Commission President Jacques Delors, would hold meetings with unions and business leaders.

With unemployment at a post-war record of 12.6 per cent, the Government has come under intense pressure from unions to fulfil its election pledge.

The plan would also scrap the "Robien law", introduced by the previous conservative Government, which aimed to protect jobs by offering relief on payroll charges to employers who cut working hours. New measures would reduce that financial incentive but offer greater flexibility.

Louis Vianet, head of the Communist-led CGT union, called on workers to mobilise in support of demands for higher salaries and shorter hours. The cut in the working week should be general, rapid and without salary cuts, he said.

During the election campaign many Socialists campaigned with the slogan "work 35 hours, get paid for 39". One official at the employers federation told *Le Monde* the plan was "stupid, since it fails to show how the move to a 35-hour week would benefit the economy and employment".

French employees already work shorter hours than most of their counterparts. The average worker puts in 1,645 hours a year, compared to 1,732 in Britain and 1,951 in America. A French worker costs a third more to employ than a Briton. But because of social costs and taxation the take-home pay in France is lower.

## Dow Corning start compensation fund

## PEP talk?

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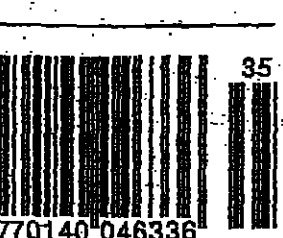
10-10-14 INVESTOR

## Fishy secret

A 40-year-old bachelor, thought to be Britain's most prolific shoplifter, was sentenced to 12 months' probation. It was disclosed in court that his haul included 194 cans of fish.

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# 16 per packet limit to cut paracetamol suicides

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

NEW controls on the sale of paracetamol, Britain's most popular painkiller, have been ordered by the Government in an attempt to cut the number of attempted suicides and accidental overdoses involving the drug.

Under rules to be introduced in September next year packets sold at supermarkets and general shops will be allowed to contain no more than 16 tablets. Pharmacists will be allowed to supply packs of 100 to customers suffering from chronic pain. For larger amounts, a doctor's prescription will be required.

Paracetamol will also carry new health warnings. As an overdose of the drug produces no symptoms, one warning will state: "Immediate medical advice should be sought in the event of an overdose, even if you feel well."

Doctors say that as few as 20 tablets taken at once can cause irreversible liver damage. Overdoses of paracetamol account for up to 40,000 referrals to hospital each year and cause between 100 and 150 deaths.

Identical restrictions will be introduced on sales of aspirin, which is regarded as less of a

problem but which has been included to ensure that people do not turn to it as an alternative. Aspirin overdoses account for 5,000 hospital admissions each year and kill about 60 people a year.

Professor Michael Rawlins of the Committee on Safety of Medicines said that a major aim of the measures was to prevent stockpiles of tablets in bathroom cabinets. Suicide attempts by young people, especially girls, were the main worry.

"It might stop the spontane-



"Drug squad"

ous suicide attempts of young people who are fed up with mother or father or their girlfriend or boyfriend," he said.

Professor Rawlins conceded that the measures are likely to result in a rise in the price of both painkillers.

But John D'Arcy, director of the National Pharmaceutical Association, the trade association for community pharmacists, said he was disappointed that the Government had not gone further and restricted all sales to pharmacies where "professional supervision and advice" were available at point of sale.

The Government confirmed yesterday it is to make the hay fever medicine terfenadine available by prescription only from September 16 this year. This follows reports of serious heart rhythm disorders, particularly when the drug is combined with antibiotics, antifungal agents or grapefruit juice. There have been 15 deaths involving the drug since it was first marketed in 1982.

Eleven popular anti-hay fever products contain the drug, including three Boots brands, Triludan and Aller-Eze Clear.

# British teacher in Bahamas murdered

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A BRITISH teacher has been murdered on the Bahamian island of Eleuthera, where she emigrated six years ago to educate children at the local primary school.

Carole Leach, 37, was found beaten to death on Friday in her home in the village of Rock Sound, where she had become a popular figure.

A team of detectives from Nassau has launched an investigation, but a police spokesman last night refused to confirm reports that she was raped.

Mrs Leach, a divorcee from Bath, moved to the Bahamas with her former husband. He returned to Britain when the marriage ended but she stayed on, living alone and teaching at the Green Castle School in Rock Sound. She "adopted" two children by providing their families with cash help.

John Farrand, the British Deputy High Commissioner in Nassau, confirmed that she was found, clad only in a T-shirt, in her bedroom by a male friend at 9pm on Friday. She was last seen alive at 2pm, emerging from a restaurant after lunch.

Her body was flown to Nassau for a post-mortem examination. Initial reports

said that she suffered a severe wound to the forehead, believed to be from a blunt instrument.

Mr Farrand said: "Eleuthera is a very close-knit community and everyone is shocked by what has happened. I met her colleagues and headmaster and they were all in a state of great grief. Mrs Leach was known as a teacher who devoted herself to the children, even after school hours."

The island has a population of 10,000 people, and is 18 minutes by air from Nassau. It is one of a chain of 701 "Family Islands" which make up the Bahamian archipelago. Rock Sound, the village where Mrs Leach made her home, has only 3,000 inhabitants and is a picturesque hamlet.

Assistant Police Superintendent Arnold Josey, Nassau police spokesman, said: "The family islands have a community spirit and things of this nature are distressing. Everyone will come forward with information."

He said that Mrs Leach's mother Evelyn flew out from Britain on Sunday and would be supervising arrangements for the funeral.

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# Harvest crisis for apple growers

Bad weather has halved the crop and threatens bankruptcy for some producers, reports Michael Hornsby

ENGLISH apple growers said yesterday that they were facing the worst harvest in more than 60 years and gave warning that many small producers could go out of business. Output of traditional English apples, such as Cox and Bramley, is expected to be half that of a normal year because of severe frosts in April and May, which devastated trees in blossom, and midsummer hailstorms which knocked fruit to the ground.

The English Cox Campaign, which promotes England's most famous apple, said the crop outlook was the worst since 1934, the last time that orchards were hit by such severe frosts, and would leave many growers with little or no crop to sell or fruit too badly damaged to be acceptable to ships. The price of Cox is expected to rise to 69p a lb, 40 per cent higher than last year.

The next two weeks will be critical for English Cox because we will only know the full extent of the damage once the apples are taken off the trees in mid-September. Adrian Barlow, chairman of the campaign, said. "There are growers who will not be picking any apples this year and their future is very bleak. With others, it will depend on the quality of the apples they harvest and how retailers and consumers react to fruit which, in some instances, is likely to look less than perfect."

A normal annual crop of English apples is about 300,000 tonnes, but this year the harvest is not expected to exceed 150,000. Cox and Bramley apples, which account for the bulk of the crop, are estimated to be down 48 per cent and 51 per cent. Yields of other varieties, including Gala, Spartan, Worcester and Discovery, have also halved. In a good year, home production supplies 40 per cent of consumption.

Dan Neuteboom, who grows 220 acres of apples near Ipswich, said 65 per cent of his crop was made up of Cox's Orange Pippins which had been particularly badly affected. "We are looking at a crop of about 40 to 45 per cent," he said. "It went down to minus 8 degrees in the spring. There is no fruit that can withstand that kind of cold. There are going to be fruit growers who cannot survive."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Husband will deny body in lake charge

The husband of Carol Park, whose body was found at the bottom of Coniston Water in the Lake District 21 years after she disappeared, appeared in court Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, yesterday charged with her murder. Gordon Park, 53, a retired teacher, indicated through his solicitor that he would "strenuously deny" that he killed his first wife. However, he did not apply for bail and was remanded in custody for seven days by magistrates.

### Haughey tax inquiry

Charles Haughey's troubles deepened yesterday as the Irish Government found itself under intense pressure to set up a new tribunal to investigate exactly how he maintained such a lavish lifestyle on a relatively meagre state salary. One day after a tribunal condemned the former Taoiseach for accepting and concealing £13 million in gifts, the Revenue Commissioners also hinted strongly that he was under investigation for tax evasion.

### Glasgow to host scrolls

Glasgow is to be the only city in Britain to host an exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the oldest known biblical manuscripts, on only their second visit to Europe from Israel. The exhibition at the city's Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery from May to August next year is expected to draw thousands of visitors. The manuscripts, 800 in all, were found in 11 caves in the Judean desert between 1947 and 1956.

### Pensioner dies in chase

A man aged 76 died from a heart attack after chasing a mugger who had made off with £4 from his wife's handbag. Albert Bishop collapsed near his home in Smithwick, West Midlands, after his wife of 56 years was robbed as he escorted her to her weekly bingo session. Kathleen Bishop said her husband ran 20 or 30 yards before collapsing. "He was the sort of person who would try to do something about things," she said.

### Fruit cross hatches 'pluot'

A new fruit being marketed as a "dinosaur egg" goes on sale today in an attempt to attract young people to more healthy eating. The fruit, grown in California, is bred by crossing an apricot and a plum and is officially known as a "pluot". The dinosaur description follows the film *Jurassic Park*: the fruit is the size of a small nectarine and has purple speckled skin. Each fruit, available at Tesco stores at 50p, is sold bearing a pink dinosaur sticker.

### Brothers killed by car

Two young brothers died after a car hit them near their home in Uxbridge, west London. Zakaria Baker, 10, and his brother Abu, 13, were crossing a dual carriageway on their way to play football. A relative said: "They were inseparable. They were holding hands when they crossed the road." Their parents, Nasimul, 37, a businessman, and Zarina, 34, fled to Britain from Idi Amin's regime in Uganda in the Seventies. They have a daughter aged 7.

### Fat saves holidaymaker

A holidaymaker who spent 20 hours in the sea after his boat capsized survived because he was overweight. John Brodie was insulated by his body fat and clothing, said Hassan Mohammed, an intensive care specialist at the Ysbyty Gwynedd Hospital, in North Wales. Mr Brodie, 43, of Rossendale, Lancashire, who has mild hypothermia, is expected to be allowed home soon. There is no trace of his son, Charles, 23, who was also thrown into the water.

### Gold rings 'halt arthritis'

Gold wedding rings can slow the progress of rheumatoid arthritis but only in the fingers on which they are worn, hospital doctors in Birmingham and Coventry claim. In a survey of 30 patients wearing rings and 25 not wearing rings, they found that the knuckle joint of the finger with the ring was three times less badly eroded by the disease than the equivalent joint on the right hand. No such difference was detectable in those who did not wear rings.

### Knock-out rescue service

A boxing fan who was thrown 25ft after his motorcycle collided with a car thought he had died when he saw Frank Bruno standing over him. Leslie Steel, 34, who has twice seen Bruno fight, realised he was alive when the former world heavyweight champion, who was two cars behind Mr Steel on the A11 at Elvedon, Suffolk, broke into his booming laugh. Mr Steel, who suffered severe bruising, said: "I told him I felt I had done three rounds with him."

# Blair tells party to focus on the big picture

By Jill Sherman and Nicholas Watt

TONY BLAIR flew back to Britain last night determined to make his Government focus on "the big picture" after a series of blunders while he has been on holiday. The first sign of his return was a flurry of activity to defuse the compensation row over Montserrat, including an agreed package of aid measures and the announcement that Clare Short's deputy would go out to the island this weekend. George Foulkes, the International Development Minister, will fly to Montserrat on Sunday to reassure islanders in the wake of the volcanic eruptions. The decision followed the meeting of a special task force on the Montserrat crisis which held its first meeting at the Foreign Office yesterday.

**THE DOME**  
The German firm which lost the contract to build the Millennium dome is considering legal action in the European courts. Koch, Hightex, is to submit a compensation claim of more than £2 million after the Government last week scrapped its £6.1 million contract to build a PVC cover. The contract has since been awarded to an American company.

"the excellent co-operation" between Whitehall departments. He rallied to Ms Short's defence by adding: "I and my other Cabinet colleagues fully support the plan put together by my colleague Clare Short to ensure that the people of Montserrat have choices."

The Prime Minister made clear yesterday that he is determined to regain the initiative and concentrate on his priorities — education, health and devolution — rather than be sidetracked by minor issues such as the Millennium Dome and the Montserrat compensation row. He will also be intent on calming party nerves and ironing out internal tensions.

then his party conference speech on September 30. Next Friday he will go up to Scotland to spearhead the campaign for a "yes yes" vote in the devolution referendum, both before and after spending the weekend with the Queen at Balmoral.

In his statement after the meeting Mr Cook said that the group had agreed to assist islanders to decide what government help they need. Islanders can either take financial support to travel to the United Kingdom or to resettle in the Caribbean from a £10.5 million relocation package. There is also a £40 million package to develop the north of the island which has escaped damage from the volcano.

William Hague, the Tory leader, said yesterday: "Let us hope that now Mr Blair is back he will get a grip on his Government. Every new issue has brought fresh bickering between ministers."

Mr Blair has been irritated that Labour's main message has been overshadowed during his absence. A Downing Street spokesman said that Mr Blair believed Labour must deliver its pledges and keep focused on the "big picture". "Some of the issues that have preoccupied the press in the last week or two are far less important than that," he added.

David Brandt, the island's chief minister, who has been a fierce critic of the Government, said that he would welcome a visit by Mr Foulkes even though the minister infuriated islanders last week with an erroneous warning of a "cataclysmic eruption".

This week the Prime Minister will begin work at Chequers on three major speeches: one to a party rally in the North on Saturday, the second to the Trades Union Congress in Brighton and



Flown in from Greece after a long legal battle, Rena tries the grass at the sanctuary

## Victory roll starts new life for rescued lioness

A LIONESS rescued from a cruel life in Greece was yesterday walking cautiously on the grass of the Big Cat Sanctuary near Ashford, Kent (writes Kathryn Knight). Vesna Jones, who runs the charity Greek Animal Rescue, said: "She keeps sniffing the grass and rolling around like she cannot believe she is here."

owner bought her illegally from a travelling circus. The lioness limps badly after an apparently bungled attempt to declaw her.

The owner refused to part with her when approached by charity workers from Greek Animal Rescue and the Born Free Foundation. In March this year, after lengthy court battles and wrangles with the Greek Justice department, Miss Jones won a court injunction to confiscate the lion

Since she was a cub, the 10-year-old lioness, Rena, has lived in a tiny concrete cage infested with ticks on Kos. The

to Britain: "But when we arrived to pick Rena up, we were nearly lynched by a mob of around 100 people stoning our vehicle. We had to return without her."

After months of negotiations, the rescue mission went ahead last week and Rena flew into Heathrow Airport to start a new life in a 640-square metre pen at the sanctuary in Smarden. There are plans to introduce her to a male lion, Duke.

## Devolution 'will be good for economy'

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

THE Government's attempt to calm the nerves of leading Scottish industrialists, who fear that the economy will be damaged by a tax-raising Scottish parliament, began in earnest yesterday. The Scottish Secretary told them that devolution would be good for their businesses.



Dewar: international business not worried

Donald Dewar promised to maintain "a level competitive playing field throughout the UK" in his first major speech in business since Sir Bruce Patullo, the Governor of the Bank of Scotland, said that a tax-raising parliament would harm jobs and investment and leave the average tax payer £200 a year worse off.

Mr Dewar said foreign investors in Scotland had none of the fears that some Scottish businessmen are exhibiting.

devolution." He said that Scottish business would have more control of its own affairs after devolution. "It is not just a question of what impact a devolved parliament will have on the business community but what effect the business community can have on the devolved parliament. The Scottish parliament and executive will have important powers over a range of matters of vital interest to business."

"We are committed to maintaining a level competitive playing field for business throughout the UK. But if we can tilt the balance just a little in Scotland's favour, not by any underhand methods but simply by getting our act together, I, for one, would be all in favour of that."

Tomorrow Sir Alistair Grant, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle, the drinks and leisure group, is expected to warn shareholders at the company's annual general meeting of the dangers of separate tax regimes for Scotland.

The 3,995,923 polling cards for those eligible to vote in the referendum were sent out at the weekend. Anyone a postal or proxy vote must return their forms by 5pm tomorrow.

The focus of the devolution campaign is now firmly on the possible tax-raising powers of a Scottish parliament and their impact on the Scottish economy.

Mr Dewar's speech to 340 delegates at the Scottish Council for Development and Industry in Glasgow yesterday was aimed at reassuring the

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# Prep head gives warning over schools crusade

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

## A LEVELS

Some editions of *The Times* last Saturday did not carry the A-level league table for state and independent schools. For those readers who missed the guide, *The Times* will publish it in full again on Friday.

THE Government's uncompromising drive for higher standards of education risks descending into "intellectual fascism", a leader of Britain's preparatory schools said yesterday.

Dr Bob Acheson, Head Master of Clifton College Preparatory School, Bristol, told fellow heads that he feared ministers would use their parliamentary majority to push through reforms against advice if their targets were not met. Excessive prescription and overemphasis on examinations could damage the character of education.

In his chairman's address to the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, Dr Acheson applauded the Government's "crusade" for higher standards. But he said the word conjured up images of "intolerance, of might being right, of myopic single-mindedness".

He told the conference in Harrogate: "Of course it is right for this Government to see the quest for higher educational standards as a battle too important to be lost. But such single-mindedness runs the risk of becoming intellectual fascism and this sits uneasily with a liberal democracy."

Dr Acheson added: "Education, education, education."

may be the starting point. But history shows that such ideals all too often descend into 'regulation, regulation, regulation'. There is a real risk that, buoyed up by a massive parliamentary majority, this idealistic and fresh Government will, as it stumbles upon the uncomfortable and complicated realities of government, stop speaking to the people and start speaking for the people."

The plethora of shock troops such as Numeracy Task Forces, Standards and Effectiveness Units and Standards Task Forces did not guarantee better education, he said. "Concepts such as 'zero tolerance' read well, and doubtless mean well, but they are strong on rhetoric and weak on means of implementation."

Dr Acheson's remarks were

well received at the conference but an Education Department spokesman said: "To deliver higher educational standards a government has to be single-minded but ministers are determined to consult widely. They have certain firm ideas about how to raise standards but they want to know what people in all walks of life, including independent education, think."

Seven regional conferences are to be held next month to canvas views on the Government's schools White Paper. The spokesman said the scale of consultation promised to be the biggest mounted by a government department.

Teachers' leaders in the state system echoed Dr Acheson's fears. David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "There is a danger that the drive for higher standards is all about achieving better and better results in the core subjects. While that is of fundamental importance, we must not allow the curriculum to be narrowed unduly."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said he was concerned by the overemphasis on pass rates.

Letters, page 17



The Captain and the governor: the rare Middle White with Mike Lewis, who says they are probably "the ugliest pig you would ever find"

## Pig of a job wins praise for a prison

By RICHARD FORD

THEY call him Captain. He is probably the ugliest customer in North Sea Camp Prison, and the other inmates naturally treat him with a certain respect.

Yesterday the respect reached the top of the prison service, with a report praising the work of the jail's farm where Captain lives. The rare

Middle White boar is among more than 1,000 pigs kept at the open prison near Boston, Lincolnshire. A report by Sir David Ramsbotham, chief inspector of prisons, praised the farm and its work in providing employment for low-risk inmates, although he said that supervision took up a lot of management time.

The jail has 213 inmates, and 58

work on the 1,000-acre farm. Most of the land is used for crops but there are also 900 bacon pigs, 100 breeding sows and 900 sheep. There are also the rare breeds including Middle Whites and Large Blacks; the jail has three Middle White boars and 25 sows, each known by name to the prisoners. The animals are popular with school visits.

Yesterday the governor, Mike

Lewis, said of the Middle Whites: "They are probably the ugliest pig you would ever find. They look as if they have travelled without a crash helmet on the motorway and hit something concrete". The rare breeds are sold to other pig keepers. The bacon used to be sent elsewhere in the prison service but has such high quality that it is now sold on the open market for top prices.

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## Bosnia pilot killed on base by drink-driver

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN Army helicopter pilot who returned to a hero's welcome from service in Bosnia was knocked down and killed by a car driven by a drunken technician after the celebrations.

Jason Penny, 24, a senior aircraftman, was jailed for three years after pleading guilty at Teesside Crown Court to causing the death of Stephen Dean, 33, by drink-driving. The court heard how Penny drove on after the accident, leaving Warrant Officer Dean in agony in the road outside RAF Dishforth, North Yorkshire. He died in hospital from head injuries.

The impact threw Mr Dean and, five hours after the accident in July 1996, was breath-tested and found to be nearly twice the legal limit.

When he was told he had killed the pilot with whom he worked, Penny claimed he had not seen anyone on the road and thought the damage to his Fiat Tipo had been caused by hitting a bird.

Warrant Officer Dean, who was married with twins aged ten, had just returned to Dishforth after a spell in Bosnia and attended a barbecue celebrating his squadron's return. Philip Creighton, for the prosecution, said Penny was also at the party.

A senior aircraftman at the base, he was responsible for ensuring the reliability of pilots' emergency gear such as life jackets, parachutes and helmets. He told how Mr Dean and two friends left the

party at 1.40am and walked across the base to a clearly marked crossing place which led over the road to a footpath to their homes.

The court heard that Penny, who had drunk at least eight cans of lager, got into his car and drove off the base onto Boroughbridge Road heading to his home in Ripon. Mr Creighton said Penny was driving at about 40mph in the 60mph zone when he hit Mr Dean who had almost crossed the road. It was a straight stretch of road with clear visibility and there were warning signs indicating a pedestrian crossing place.

The impact threw Mr Dean 40 yards but Penny, a bachelor, failed to stop. He was arrested after guardsmen on the camp gate told police he had left the base in a car shortly before the smash. Jeremy Wilson, for the defence, told the court: "Mr Penny accepts he made a significant error. There was no way on earth he should have been driving. He simply didn't realise he had hit another human being."

After the case Warrant Officer Dean's mother, Margaret, from Bromsgrove, told how her son had left school aged 16 determined to become a helicopter pilot. He spent nine years with the Army as an air technician often serving abroad including Ireland and the Gulf before training with the Army Air Corps to achieve his ambition of becoming a pilot.

## Alibi for soldiers on trial for assault

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN LARNACA

THREE of the five British soldiers accused of assaulting a group of English tourists outside a nightclub in Cyprus have been provided with alibis by a witness for the prosecution. Their lawyer said yesterday he would move for an early acquittal once the prosecution rested its case.

Private Alan Spearman, appearing for the prosecution, said he was with Tim Carter, 27, and Steven Wolstencroft, 26, when they left the nightclub to go to a hamburger bar across the road. There was a fight about 25 yards away which all three watched.

Private Spearman said he then spotted a third defendant, Steven Girvan, 20, leaving the nightclub and getting into a taxi. He, too, was not involved in the fight, said Private Spearman, 21, of the 9 Signals Regiment. Judge Michaelis Christodolou interrupted proceedings to ask: "Is this man really a witness for the prosecution?"

The case has been adjourned until September 16 because the lawyer for Roger Bell, the fourth accused, will be on holiday.

John Mylonas, the lawyer representing Messrs Carter, Wolstencroft and Girvan, assured them he would be in a position to appeal for their acquittal shortly after the case resumes. All five accused are serving with the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment. The trial of Stuart Spencer will begin on September 30.

## Aboriginal head rests a while longer in Liverpool

By LIN JENKINS

ABORIGINAL elders due to arrive from Australia today to reclaim the skull of a warrior ancestor have suffered a legal setback. An injunction was granted yesterday banning them from removing the skull from Britain until the legality of the exhumation has been confirmed by a court.

Corrie Bodney, from Perth, was granted the injunction by an Australian court after claiming that he had to give formal consent for exhumation because he is the closest living relative of the warrior, Yagan.

An 1857 law states that

exhumation within 100 years of burial can be carried out only with the consent of the next of kin. Mr Bodney said that the Australian High Commission did not have his backing when it retrieved the skull from a pauper's grave in a Liverpool cemetery.

Mr Bodney, a Ballaruk tribal elder, said tribal law required him to bludgeon Ken Colbung, one of the four-man delegation, with fighting sticks if the head was brought back without his consent.

"It will have to come to violence," he told *The West Australian*. "I have no choice. I'll give him a few, not

one, and then take the head off him."

Yagan was shot by a bounty hunter in Western Australia and his skull presented to the Liverpool Royal Institution in 1834. He was renowned for his clashes with white settlers. British descendants of two men allegedly murdered by him have objected to plans to give the skull a hero's burial. Liverpool City Council, which has kept the skull in a museum conservation department since its exhumation earlier this month, said the exhumation hearing was due on Friday at the Supreme Court in Western Australia.

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# CB radio clue to schoolboy's murder

Detectives investigating Thomas Marshall's death believe that he may have met his killer over the airwaves, Joanna Bale reports

THOMAS MARSHALL, the 12-year-old boy murdered in Norfolk, may have met his killer through CB radio, police said yesterday.

As his parents appealed to the public for information leading to his murderer, detectives disclosed that for the past year he had been using a CB set in his bedroom to talk to local radio enthusiasts.

Superintendent Les Parrett, who is leading the murder inquiry, said Thomas sometimes used the "handle" Jackpot. Thomas was using a CB radio from his home, and clearly would have been speaking to people at various times. There is a possibility that he could have come into contact with his killer.



Thomas Marshall: used radio in his bedroom

through it. We would like CB users to come forward with any information that might help. We would also like to establish a link with someone who regularly uses a CB."

CB radio, once a common fad, remains popular among lorry drivers.

Martin Hamlin, 27, a CB user from North Walsham, near Thomas's home village of Happisburgh, said he heard the boy broadcasting pop music two days before he disappeared on Thursday. "He introduced himself as 'This is Radio Thomas here playing all the greatest hits in Norfolk'. He was laughing and joking and pretending he was a radio DJ. I spoke to him for about 15 minutes around 10pm. At the end he said 'I'd better get down and go to bed or my parents will tell me off'."

"He was a lovely lad and I was so shocked when I found out it was him who had been killed. It is possible that he could have met someone through the CB, but it's an awful thought."

Thomas's parents, John and Carol Marshall, held hands and looked emotionally drained as a police press officer read out a statement on their behalf yesterday. In it, they said Thomas, their only child, had been "at the start of a life full of promise" and they did not want another child deprived of his future in such a "brutal way".

The statement, read by Peter Steward, said: "Words cannot express the pain we feel at losing the most pre-



John and Carol Marshall appealing yesterday for the public's help in finding their son's killer before "another child is deprived of his future in such a brutal way"

cious thing we had, our dear son Thomas.

"We would like to appeal for further help from anybody who has any information, however insignificant it may seem. If you have any suspicions or doubts, we beg you to contact the police now so that whoever has done this to our son can be caught before he kills again."

"Thomas was at the start of

a life full of promise. Please do not allow another child to be deprived of his future in such a brutal way."

Before reading the statement, Mr Steward said: "As you can imagine, Mr and Mrs Marshall are absolutely devastated by the death of their son. Norfolk Police are desperate to find the person or persons responsible. In order to help, John and Carol

have agreed to face the media and appeal for information."

Mr Marshall, 50, a Norfolk County Council archivist, and Mrs Marshall, 47, a part-time librarian, reported Thomas missing at 11pm last Thursday after he failed to arrive home from a trip to see a 16-year-old friend at the neighbouring seaside village of Eccles. He never arrived at the friend's house. His bicycle

was found in a field three miles from the village on Friday afternoon and his body discovered two hours later, at a picnic area near Thetford, 50 miles away on the A11 Norwich to London road. He had been strangled.

Police are concentrating their inquiries to see if there may be a link with the apparent suicide of a 22-year-old American airman at a

base at Mildenhall, Suffolk, on Friday night. The base is a few miles from the picnic area where Thomas's body was found. A Norfolk police spokesman said: "This is part of routine inquiries we are making into all suspicious deaths since the murder."

Police say they are likely to stage a reconstruction of Thomas's last known movements on Thursday.

## Wood expert casts doubt on dating of masterpiece

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A TIMBER expert yesterday cast fresh doubt on the authenticity of one of the National Gallery's most prized paintings, Rubens's *Samson and Delilah*.

Charles Norman, the executive director of the National Timber Trade Federation, dispensed the gallery's dating of the wooden board to which the painting is glued.

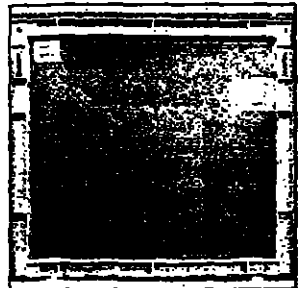
He said that, judging from photographs, the wood was a blockboard manufactured in the late 1970s or early 1980s — around the time that the painting was bought by the gallery for a record £2.5 million. Mr Norman's dating supports a report from four

another piece of evidence against a work which was attributed to Rubens only in 1929. Throughout its 180 years in the Prince of Liechtenstein's collection, it was always said to be a copy of the early 17th century Rubens by a minor pupil, Jan van den Hoocke.

The gallery has insisted that the wood was applied long before it acquired the picture. Last year it agreed to conduct a dendrochronology test to date the oak panels on which the picture was painted. It believes the results support the work's authenticity.

However, if Mr Norman's reading is correct, a more recent dating has crucial implications, explained Michael Daley, director of ArtWatch UK, the group that campaigns for the welfare of works of art. He said: "Once the wood is planed away, any documentary evidence is gone for all time if it's not recorded, either by photographs or written accounts. It seems incredible that this should have been done by any party in the 20th century, partly because such information constitutes the pedigree of a painting and partly because everyone has become so record-conscious."

The auction house from which the gallery purchased the painting has refused to comment on its attribution. Earlier this year, the gallery's director, Neil MacGregor, said the blockboard was applied "almost certainly before the war". His statement refined the gallery's earlier suggestion that it had been done "at some time, probably during the present century", which implied it could even have been done in the last century, even though blockboard had yet to be invented.



The back of the picture

witnesses who saw the painting just before its 1980 sale. They cannot be named for reasons of confidentiality, but each remember that the painting had a wood cradling support common on Old Master paintings, and are adamant that it did not have a blockboard backing.

Mr Norman said: "The blockboard looks like a manufactured item, machine-made rather than hand-made." The size of the panel and the five-ply construction were among clues to a modern dating. Mr Norman's reading is yet



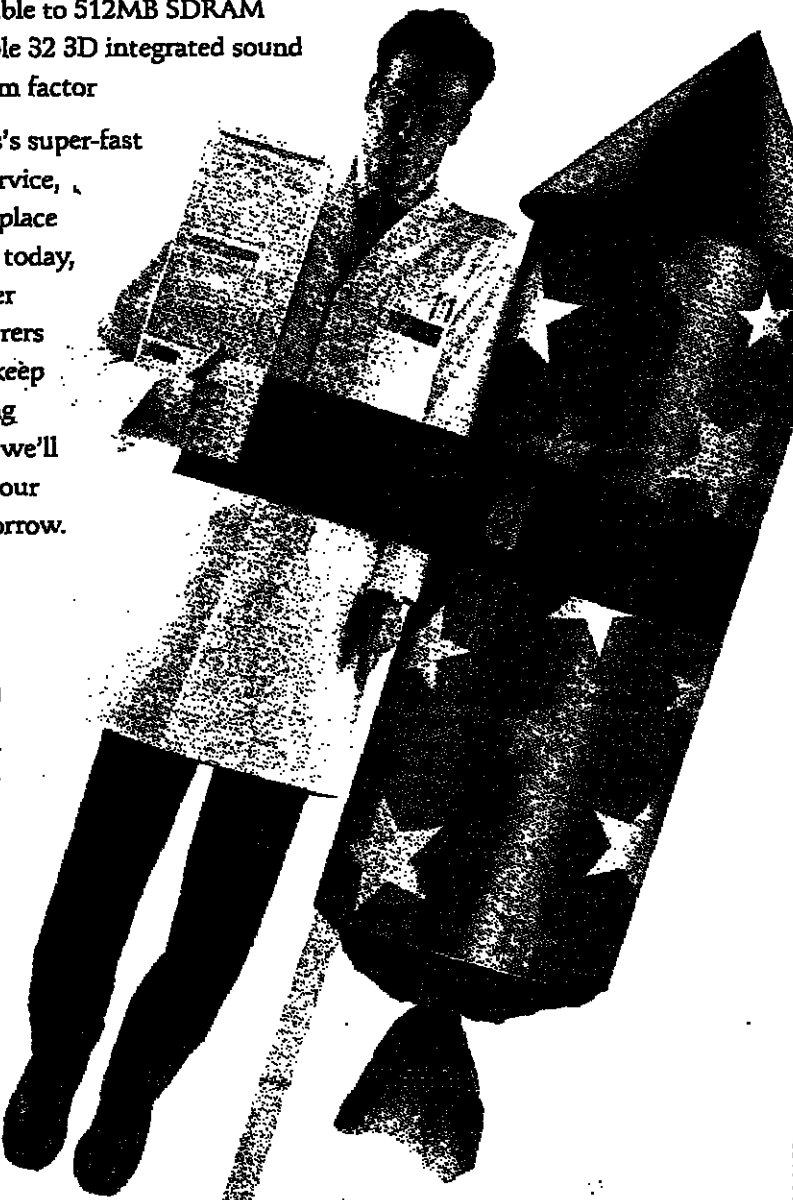
Samson and Delilah: attributed to Rubens in 1929

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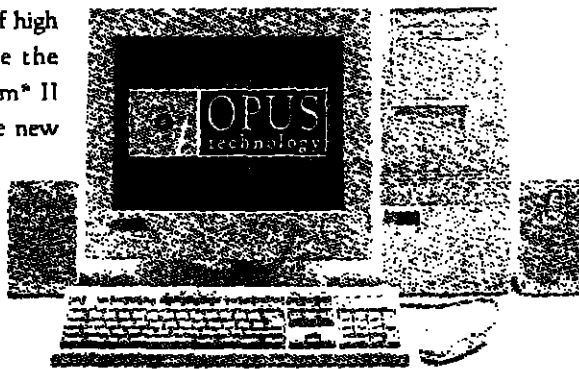


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# Mobile phone will make calls from the heart

MOBILE phones that will automatically alert a hospital if their owner's heart rate or blood pressure reaches dangerous levels are being developed by British engineers. The phones will also be able to show where the person is on an electronic map if they become unconscious.

BT is developing a range of devices to help disabled and elderly people become less housebound. Panic buttons that alert the police or a carer are already routinely used to help the frail and disabled to live in their own home, but BT researchers are studying ways of extending the idea.

Don Golding, of BT's laboratories at Martlesham Heath, Suffolk, said yesterday that phones could be set up to trigger an alarm. For example, if someone was on an errand or on an outing, a central controller could ring at a pre-set time to check they were all right.

An alarm call might be made automatically if the person strayed outside a pre-determined area. The call centre could then alert an ambulance or a member of the family.

Mr Golding said: "The call centre could bring up informa-

## Telephone alarm system could help to make life

### much easier and safer for millions, reports

Nick Nuttall

tion about the person such as medical needs or telephone number of their doctor."

The call centre could also be used as an advice point. Mr Golding said that a person in a wheelchair who, for example, got stuck on a woodland trail, could dial the centre which could put them in touch with the nearest taxi firm to come to their aid.

He said other users of the system could be women out at night on their own, or people whose jobs put them in vulnerable situations, such as social workers, bank messengers and security guards.

BT is looking at using the

cell-phone network for the system. Signals from the phone to at least three cellular transmitters would allow the network to pinpoint the phone's location.

The phone could also act as a route planner, advising which sections of a journey could best be done by train, car, taxi or on foot. "If you get lost and find yourself in a dodgy area you could hit the alert button and ask the assistant to send a cab," Stephen Furner, another BT researcher, said.

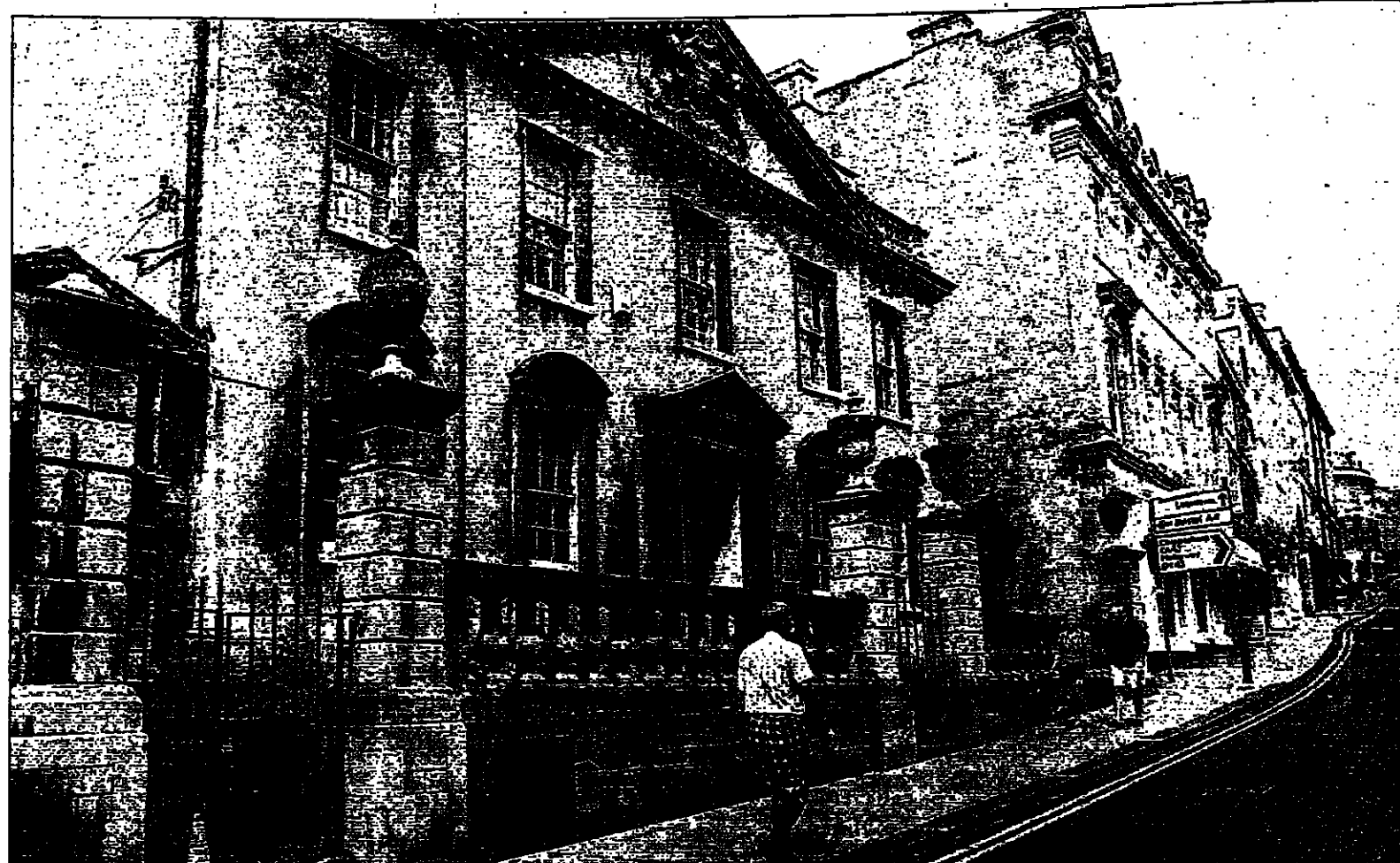
"The mobile phone could also use biological sensors. It could help to do all sorts of health monitoring, such as heart rate and blood pressure."

A wrist-watch might gather the data and the phone transmit it to a health centre to alert staff that the user's condition was deteriorating, and say where they were.

The company said the technology could be available in three years.

Another scheme under development, called Telecare Testbed, will fit elderly people's homes with sensors that will monitor their movements around the house 24 hours a day, and other features, such as the temperature of rooms.

Mel Collins, the BT researcher involved in the project, run in collaboration with the Anchor Housing Trust and the Institute of Human Ageing in Liverpool, said the system would first learn the householder's habits, such as when they rise, get picked up for a wheel drive, and go to bed. Once the pattern has been set any sharp deviations will be picked up by a call centre. If no doors opened and closed during the afternoon, for instance, the service could automatically ring the householder or a carer. It is hoped the system could cut health service costs and improve the quality of life for older people or those with degenerative diseases by delaying the date when they may need to consider hospitalisation or moving to a home.



King Edward's School in Bath, which the Samuel Smith brewery wants to turn into a pub with a capacity for 500. It has not been granted a licence

## Roman Bath fights a losing battle to keep superpub hordes from the gates

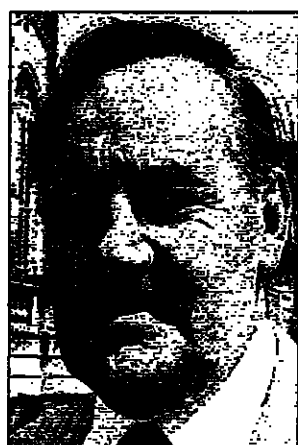
Plans to convert listed buildings face stiff resistance, report Mark Henderson and Elizabeth Judge

THE Roman spa town of Bath is fighting plans by brewers to open seven "superpubs" for young people in listed buildings in the town centre.

The Bath Society, the Bath Preservation Trust, magistrates and councillors have spoken out against the proposals, which they say would destroy the character of the Georgian town centre.

The developments, which are all within 500 yards of each other, would cater for more than 2,000 drinkers. One superpub, P.J. Peppers, has already opened, and another, All Bar One, is to open in the old Christopher Hotel building. Three others have been granted licences.

The campaigners have already seen off a plan by the Samuel Smith brewery to develop a pub with a capacity of nearly 500 in the disused



Major Crombie said image would be ruined

King Edward's Junior School. Bath Crown Court last week rejected an appeal by the brewery against a magistrates' decision to refuse its application for a licence.

However, Surrey Free Inns has planning permission and a licence for The Litten Tree, which will take over the old Lloyds Bank building, and an O'Neill's Irish pub is to open in the old Cawarden's Café. All three were granted licences on appeal at Bath Crown Court after their initial applications were rejected by magistrates. Planning or licence applications are still pending for the Fortuna and Firkin pub in the former

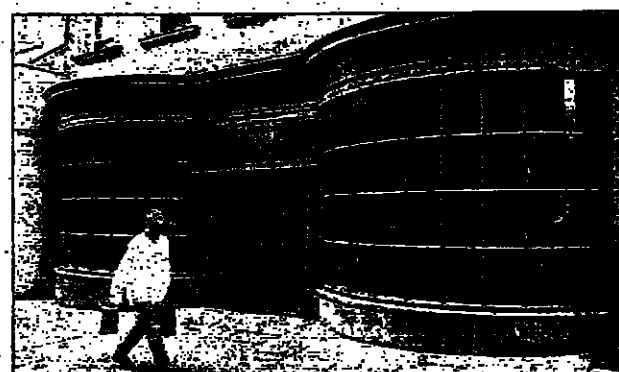
Royal York Hotel and the Style Bar in the old Post Office. Fullers wants to turn the NatWest Bank building into an Ale and Pie pub.

Protesters say similar developments in nearby Clifton and Worcester have led to increased vandalism and drunkenness. Major Anthony Crombie, vice-chairman of the Bath Society, said: "The cumulative impact of these schemes presents a terrible danger to a World Heritage Site."

"We are going to see 18 to 25-year-olds on 'circuit drinking' sprees and the character, image and standing of the area will be ruined. There will be increased noise, disturbance, vandalism and anti-social behaviour. I do not want youngsters urinating and vomiting in the doorways of Bath."

English Heritage, which has given listed-building permission to most of the schemes, said opponents of the pubs were exaggerating their impact. "Listed buildings are seriously damaged by the blight of disuse, and we need to get them filled," said Chris Smith, its historical adviser for the South West.

He added: "The whole of Bath is a conservation area and we would not accept plans that would damage it, but we are not in the business



Cowardine's Café, above, and the old Lloyds Bank, below, were granted licences on appeal at Crown Court



of pandering to Nimby."

Breweries said the new pubs would bring new life to the town centre and appeal to tourists as well as younger residents. "There is a bad need for new pubs in Bath," said Pat Perrell, commercial director of Surrey Free Inns. Graham Stewart-Reed, of Bass, which operates the All Bar One chain, said the new pubs would make Bath more lively in the evenings. "There

will be a great scene in Bath, a massive circuit with a whole variety of styles."

"Hundreds of 'superpubs', which often form part of a chain, have opened in the past three years as breweries have targeted 18 to 25-year-old drinkers. Bank and hotel buildings are popular locations as they have large, open floor spaces. Breweries like to open the pubs close to others to share customers."

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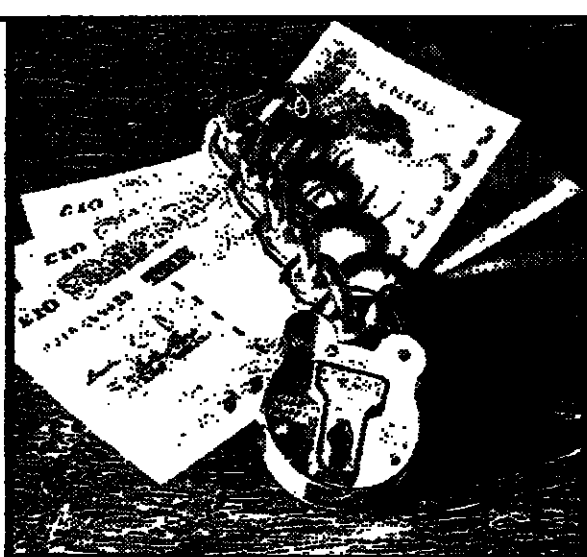
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## Cypriots accused by rape claim mother

By A STAFF REPORTER

AN ENGLISH mother who was fined £400 by a Cyprus court for inventing a rape allegation returned home yesterday insisting that she had been sexually attacked.

Susan Warburton, 30, and her boyfriend, Paul Shear-smith, 26, said that threats by Cypriot police had made them sign statements saying that they made up the story for an insurance fraud. They said police did not want to prosecute her attacker because he was from a prominent family.

The couple said they would take legal advice in Britain. A police spokesman in Cyprus said that they had been properly treated throughout the investigation.

Warburton, who has four children and lives in Hazel Grove, near Manchester, was examined by a doctor after her return. She described her experiences in Cyprus as "horrific". Warburton alleged that she was raped in her hotel room by a man she and Shear-smith had befriended while her boyfriend was in the bar.

Shear-smith, who was also fined £400, said: "The police split us up and told us we would go to prison unless we signed statements that we did it for the insurance money. They told me Susan had said we'd done it for the money."

"The conditions they kept us in were disgusting: there was no water, no sheets, and rats and cockroaches everywhere."

The Foreign Office said last night: "We regard the matter closed as they pleaded guilty."

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27 1997

# MI5 mole was failed journalist

Andrew Neil, then Editor of *The Sunday Times*, with Shayler, far left, as a trainee

**'Born rebel' printed Spycatcher extracts as student but was rejected by the Editor of *The Sunday Times*, reports Michael Evans**

DAVID SHAYLER, whose account of MI5 bugging operations has embarrassed his former employers, was allowed to join the Security Service despite publishing extracts of the banned *Spycatcher* book as a student journalist.

He later began a career in journalism but, after six months as a graduate trainee with *The Sunday Times*, he was regarded as "not up to scratch" and left. He joined MI5 soon afterwards.

The Security Service should have read his last school report before he went up to Dundee University in 1984, where he eventually obtained an upper second class honours degree in English. Written by Andrew MacTavish, headmaster of John Hampden Grammar School in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, the report said: "He is a born rebel who likes to sail close to the wind ... and suffers neither fools nor their arguments gladly."

Mr MacTavish, who became headmaster in 1983, said yesterday that his former pu-



Shayler: pictured as a first-year undergraduate

pil had never caused any trouble at school but was extremely ambitious. "He was undoubtedly very clever and as such was bound to do well," he said. Mr Shayler was then living in Beaconsfield, although his family later moved.

His personal contribution to

the *Spycatcher* affair in 1988 provided an uncanny precursor of what he himself would do nearly ten years later. In *Spycatcher*, Peter Wright, also a former MI5 officer, alleged that MI5 had "bugged and burgled" its way around London in the 1960s and 1970s. The Government tried to prevent its publication, but was eventually defeated by the book's release in Australia and the United States.

Mr Shayler became editor-in-chief of *Annasch*, the student magazine in Dundee, in December 1987. He took over after a gap year teaching English at a school in France. He described the eight issues of the magazine under his editorship as the most controversial in its 21-year history.

The headline on the extracts was "My country, Wright or wrong?" Some senior figures at the university thought that Mr Shayler should have been sacked.

Mr Shayler left Dundee in 1989. In October of that year he was taken on with three other graduates for a three-year fellowship with *The Sun-*



Corridors of power: Mr Shayler alleged that MI5 bugged targets with apparent left-wing links, some of whom are now in the Government

day Times. Hundreds of graduates had applied. Mr Shayler had cut his teeth as a reporter by writing two stories as a freelance that were printed in *The Sun*.

After a six-month assessment of his work, Andrew Neil, then Editor, decided he was not good enough and he applied to join MI5 under its graduate entry scheme. MI5 is now taking very seriously the disclosures by its former employee who, in his six years working for the Security Ser-

vice, did not rise very high but had the same access as all staff to classified material.

His article in *The Mail on Sunday* caused a frantic series of meetings and discussions with legal advisers, to decide what action could be taken. There was also concern that some of the contents of his article were either incorrect or misleading. Mr Shayler, 31, claimed that MI5 was riddled with bureaucracy and paper-shuffling and that operations were jeopardised by an obses-

sion with rules and procedures.

Security sources said that one of the reasons why there was now more bureaucracy was because MI5 was governed by an Act of Parliament and every decision had to be carefully weighed to ensure that any action taken was in accordance with the terms of the legislation. Mr Shayler also claimed that Stephen Lander, the present Director-General of MI5, who succeeded Dame Stella Rimington,

was a career bureaucrat who had little experience of running agents in the field or counter-terrorist investigations. However, Mr Lander is acknowledged to be the most experienced person in MI5 in dealing with Irish terrorism — he was the director of Irish counter-terrorism for years.

Security sources indicated that the errors in Mr Shayler's article were one of the reasons for the deep concern about the need to take appropriate action. MI5 is understood to be

anxious to put the record straight about some of the telephone-tapping allegations, especially because of the implication that all 1970s files were still around and in use by the new management.

Mr Lander has volunteered a report on the matter to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. A Home Office spokesman said yesterday that the two would meet soon and "consideration is being given to what if any action should be taken" against Mr Shayler.

## Ministers were encouraged to fear 'Reds under bed'

**Seventies targets were selected in context of potential Soviet threat to Britain, writes Michael Evans**

THE long list of names of well-known and less well-known public figures who were bugged, tailed, watched or generally monitored by MI5 in the 1970s for suspicion of being under the influence of the Kremlin has come back to haunt the new management at the Security Service.

The weekend newspaper revelations by David Shayler, who resigned from MI5 five months ago and is now keeping well away from his former employers in a European country, have highlighted how seriously the Security Service regarded the potential threat from domestic subversion during that period.

MI5 today is quick to point out that it has been on the statute books since the 1969 Security Service Act, that a special judicial commissioner now oversees all telephone-tap warrants, that the potential threat of KGB-inspired sub-

version in Britain has ended with the fall of the Soviet Union and that, if all else fails, there is now a parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee which has the power to summon the heads of the agencies to demand to know what is going on.

Although telephone taps still required an official warrant from the Home Secretary in the 1970s, the assessment of the potential threat from certain organisations and individuals at that time was based on a totally different view of the world. Ministers were encouraged to worry about "Reds under the bed".

Thus, trades union leaders,

civil liberty groups, left-wing journalists, political activists, Communist Party members and anyone who was thought to have anarchic or subversive tendencies that might undermine parliamentary democracy were liable to receive attention from MI5, which was then based at the north end of Gower Street and in half a dozen other buildings in London.

The embarrassment for the Security Service is that individuals who were on the watch list 20 years ago should end up as government ministers.

Mr Shayler has named Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, Peter Mandelson, Minister

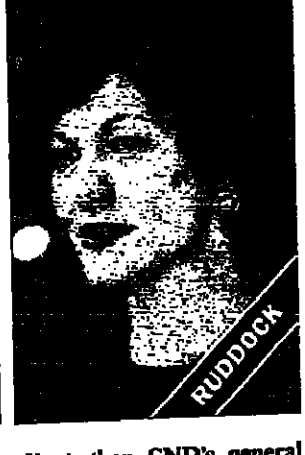
without Portfolio, and Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, as all having been at one time the subject of MI5 interest.

Mr Mandelson, now on holiday in the United States, has already denied one of the alleged items in his MI5 file, that he was a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain. He agreed that for a brief spell, when he was an 18-year-old sixth-former in 1971-72, he had attended meetings of the Young Communist League.

"But I was never a member of the Communist Party, that is a pure smear," he said.

Other former MI5 officers have revealed more names from the past, people whose jobs or interests caught the eye of the Security Service. Cathy Massiter, who was an MI5 intelligence officer for 14 years, gave her list during a Channel 4 programme in 1985.

### UNDER SURVEILLANCE: MASSITER'S LIST



CATHY MASSITER, the former MI5 officer, said its files in the 1970s included reports on:

□ Patricia Hewitt, who was general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties from 1974 to 1983. She went on to become an adviser to Neil Kinnock, then Labour Opposition leader, took part in a Labour Party inquiry into the Security Service, and wrote a book called *The Abuse of Power*. She is now Labour MP for Leicester West.

□ Joan Ruddock, who worked for Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless from 1968-73 and was chairwoman of the Campaign for Nuclear

Disarmament from 1981-85. She was always active in politics and pressure groups. She is now Labour MP for Lewisham, Deptford and a junior Minister for Women.

□ Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers. He still has the same job but is also leader of the Socialist Labour Party.

□ Ken Gill, then a Communist general secretary of TASS, the white-collar section of the engineering union, and a member of the TUC general council. Ms Massiter said his telephone was tapped and his home broken into and bugged when he was holding talks with other trade unionists.

□ Bruce Kent, then CND's general secretary. He is now vice-president and during the last election campaigned for people to vote tactically for the Liberal Democrats in strong Conservative areas.

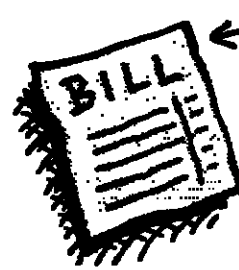
□ Duncan Campbell, the left-wing journalist who produced a number of scoops that embarrassed the Government and who, in 1987, revealed in the *New Statesman* that Britain was secretly building a spy satellite in a programme codenamed Zircon. He is still a prominent journalist.

□ Mick Costello, then Labour correspondent of the *Morning Star*, is now a business consultant.

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# Search team to sniff out body of 'murdered' Royal Marine

Volunteers will travel to Falkland Islands in bid to solve 17-year-old mystery, Daniel McGrory reports

A TEAM that specialises in locating the bodies of murder victims is to travel to the Falkland Islands to look for the remains of a teenage Royal Marine thought to have been murdered 17 years ago.

Falklands police believe Alan Addis, 19, was killed on the orders of a prominent islander who accused him of having an affair with his wife. Detectives have never had the evidence to convict the four islanders suspected of burying the body.

Professor John Hunter, who is part of the team, said: "On a brief reconnaissance trip we identified three sites where we believe his remains may be, and if he is there we have the technology to find him. Everybody down there gets nervous whenever this case is reopened. They should be as we have not reached the end of this story by any means."

Professor Hunter, an archaeologist at Birmingham University, recruited volunteers from the police, industry and universities for the forensic search advisory group. He hopes to employ the radar



Addis disappeared after party at social club

team that uncovered victims of the killer Frederick West.

Another member of the team, Sergeant Mick Swindells of Lancashire police, is training a young border collie to locate hidden corpses.

Sergeant Swindells, who is based in Blackpool, located the body of five-year-old Rosie McCann in Oldham; her murderer was jailed earlier this year. The dog will be left with the

Falkland Islands police after the search operation, which will probably take place in December.

"Some might argue, why bother after 17 years," he said. "But those who murdered Alan Addis deserve to be brought to book and his family would like to be able to bury him with some dignity after all these years of wondering what happened to him."

Mrs Addis, who is now living in America, said: "I just want to get to the bottom of what happened to him and see him laid to rest properly."

Mrs Addis has visited the islands and spoken to those suspected of the murder. Two years ago four detectives from Devon and Cornwall spent two months in the South Atlantic investigating the case and came up with the same names as the local police. They were unable to gather enough evidence to warrant charges.

Marine Addis disappeared two years before Argentina invaded the Falklands. A detachment of 42 Royal Marines was sent to Moody Barracks at Port Stanley to train local people in home defence.

Naval party 8901 was split into small groups and in the depths of winter Marine Addis and two others were sent 75 miles away to the wilderness of North Arm.

The commandos, berthed on the coastal steamer *MV Forrest*, and its merchant seamen decided to celebrate the last night of their week's stay with a visit to the settlement's



Sergeant Mick Swindells, the Blackpool policeman who trains border collies to locate buried human remains

social club, where a party had been arranged by 40 locals. Marine Addis, complaining of stomach cramps, said he would stay on board. However, an hour later he set out to join his comrades. He arrived at the club at 9.30pm and was seen talking to a woman he had befriended.

No one remembers seeing the marine leave but the Ministry of Defence, local police and his family dispute suggestions that he slipped off the jetty or wandered off drunk into the winter wilderness. The *MV Forrest* was at sea when it was noticed that Marine Addis was missing. It was not until 12 hours later that a radio message was sent to Port Stanley, Royal Navy divers failed to find any trace

of his body or his Arctic survival equipment and troops and helicopters scoured the interior with no success.

Mrs Addis was first told that her son had disappeared on patrol. The next day police called at her home to say he had fallen overboard and drowned. The military dismissed the more exaggerated explanation, that he was captured and killed while on a military intelligence operation. They emphasised that he was trained in Arctic warfare and should easily have survived the conditions.

Although the MoD at first told his family that he could have fallen into the sea, repeated tests in the Bay of Harbours have shown that his remains would have surfaced

soon afterwards. To add to the mystery, a sheep farmer was found dead a fortnight later amid rumours that he had overheard a conversation implicating the prominent islander in the killing.

At the inquest, the coroner recorded an open verdict but upset the Addis family by adding that he believed the marine had died accidentally.

The volunteer search team, which includes geophysicists and botanists, as well as the police, has this year helped 33 forces in the recovery of human remains. Ken Greenland, the islands' chief police officer, believes they are his last chance to prove the young marine was murdered.

Professor Hunter said: "As volunteers we have to arrange

time off and find someone to pay for the thermal imaging equipment and ground penetrating radar."

"We will stay with locals and in two weeks we should be able to investigate the suspect sites properly. Those who bury their victims do follow a pattern and ground that has been disturbed remains so for all time."

Sergeant Swindells is confident that the dog he is training will be able to pinpoint the grave. Another of his dogs successfully indicated bones 1,200 years old during an experiment at Bradford University. He added: "Those who committed this murder did not reckon on the advances of technology and forensic science since then."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Man stabs pop fans with syringe

A helpline has been set up for pop fans who fear they might have been attacked with a hypodermic syringe. An unknown man was seen plunging the needle into two men at a Primal Scream concert in Glasgow on Sunday. He disappeared into the 7,200-strong crowd after being challenged by another man, who was scratched by the needle.

### Netted profit

Two anglers who hooked a dirty bottle while fishing off the Isle of Sheppey, Kent, have been told that it could be worth £10,000. Stephen Gosling and Ralph Willoughby took their catch to Guildhall Museum, Rochester, where experts identified it as an extremely rare wine bottle from the late 17th century.

### Rapist returns

A skinhead wanted for the attempted rape of a woman aged 86 in Pocklington, east Yorkshire, could be the same man who raped and murdered Winifred Deighton, 59, a widow, two months ago in Bridlington, police believe. In the latest attack the man fled when he was disturbed by a woman security guard.

### Car hits pram

A boy aged 22 months was in Glasgow Royal Infirmary with head injuries after his pram was struck by a car on a pedestrian crossing. The light had been on green for traffic, but a van had stopped to allow the boy's mother to push him across. The pram was then struck by a "blinded" car obeying the lights.

### Clapper happy

The beadle at Kirkcaldy Old Parish Church, Fife, thanked divine intervention for his life when the 80lb iron clapper of the 290-year-old bell he was ringing fell down the tower, smashed through the floor and came to rest on a lower floor directly above the congregation — leaving a rust mark on the back of his shirt.

### Near the knuckle

A man was knocked unconscious by a 40mph rollercoaster as he lent over to pick up keys dropped from a carriage. Adyn Chapman, 20, who works on the ride on Clacton Pier, Essex, lay between the rails until the machine was stopped. He was treated for head injuries in hospital and later released.

### Camera obscura

A man who lost his new camera in the mud at the Glastonbury Festival has it back after a woman found it, developed the film and recognised him from one of the photographs — on the dance floor of a club in Nottingham. Kirsty Kelly-Lewin had picked up Andy Sotherton's camera after losing hers the same way.

### CORRECTION

The total eclipse reported on Monday, August 25, will occur at 11.11am on Wednesday, August 27, 1997.

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## Police charged over strip show

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWENTY-TWO police officers are to face disciplinary action over a striptease show at a police training college, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Police Complaints Authority said it was recommending action against the officers following allegations that they had "engaged in or acquiesced to unacceptable behaviour" with a female stripper.

Six officers are to be charged with discreditable conduct, and one faces further charges of falsehood and perjury. The rest are to be formally admonished or given advice over their conduct.

Lancashire police asked the authority to investigate after a woman officer complained about the show last February at the force's headquarters training school at Hutton, Lancashire.

Still taken from a video of the stripper's act were later published in a national tabloid newspaper. According to the paper, the stripper undressed a male officer who was celebrating his birthday at the

school's social club, and had him lick chocolate sauce and whipped cream from her naked body.

Afterwards, three Lancashire officers were suspended and a number of officers from other forces were sent home.

Apart from the Lancashire officers, the authority recommended disciplinary action against police from Cleveland, Cumbria, Devon and Cornwall, Essex, Humberside, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, West Mercia, West Yorkshire and the Metropolitan Police.

Officers from Fife, the Isle of Man and the Royal Ulster Constabulary were also present, but the authority's jurisdiction extends only to forces in England and Wales.

Clare Mitchell, a member of the complaints authority who examined the case for disciplinary issues, said: "This has been an unusual incident in that it has involved police forces throughout England."

Lancashire police said that the three officers from its force remained suspended.

## One in six supermarket till receipts 'is wrong'

BY ROBIN YOUNG

RESEARCHERS have proved what most shoppers already suspect: that their grocery bills do not add up. A report yesterday revealed that one in six till receipts from the biggest supermarkets is wrong.

Shoppers recruited by *The Grocer* magazine found they were overcharged for some of the goods bought. Despite millions of pounds invested in new technology at checkouts, till errors were still found at Sainsbury's, Tesco, Safeway and Morrisons stores. Some shoppers were charged twice for the same product, others were charged an inflated price and sometimes a more expensive item appeared on the receipt.

The mistakes were discovered in the past 12 weeks

after *The Grocer* decided to carry out a weekly price check on 33 typical items.

Errors found on the till receipts included one cola drink for the price of two, standard own-label orange juice for the price of premium, and discounted prices on the shelves not being honoured at the checkout.

One shopper in the North East found he had been charged twice for a £1.25 bottle of Diet Coke at Sainsbury's. Not all the mistakes are in the shops' favour. One customer found he had not been charged for a bottle of wine.

Since June, shoppers employed by *The Grocer* have carried out 96 shopping trips. They found that 14 of the till receipts were wrong.

A spokeswoman for the magazine said: "We found

human error was to blame in most cases. The speed with which some checkout staff pass items over scanners is bound to lead to mistakes."

A spokesman for Sainsbury's said: "It would have been helpful if the magazine's shoppers had made the errors known to the store at the time, so they could have been either explained or corrected."

A Consumers' Association spokeswoman said yesterday: "The only way to be absolutely sure you are not paying over the odds is to go to the supermarket equipped with calculator, notebook and pen, taking down what everything should cost and keeping a running total which can be compared with the total charged at the till."



# National policies go up in smoke as states cut own tobacco deals

A triumph for Florida, a relief for the tobacco industry, and a superb illustration of the growing problems in governing America. Those are the verdicts which might be stapled to Monday's settlement in which five of America's largest tobacco companies agreed to pay Florida \$11.3 billion (about £7 billion) in return for dropping smoking-related lawsuits.

Florida followed Mississippi in striking a unilateral pact with the industry. It jumped the gun while the proposed \$368.5 billion settlement between state governments and tobacco companies waits for approval from Congress and President Clinton, required



AMERICAN AGENDA  
BRONWEN MADDOX

own course within months. Anti-tobacco groups fear that the piecemeal approach carries a risk of undermining the national deal. More importantly, it is a symptom of the way political power is shifting from Washington to the courts and the states in a way that threatens the ability to design coherent policies applying to the whole country.

Under the Florida deal, Philip Morris, RJR Nabisco and other large cigarette companies will pay the state \$11.3 billion over the next 25 years to settle medical claims for smoking-related diseases. They will tear down billboards near schools, stop advertising at sports events, pay for anti-

smoking campaigns and remove vending machines from places where children might reach them.

The immediate effect is to strengthen the deal Mississippi struck in June, which gave that state the benefit of any concessions won in deals with other states. But anti-smoking campaigners are afraid that unilateral deals will weaken pressure for the national settlement brought by 40 states and individual smokers, which has an extra section enabling the federal Government to regulate tobacco as a drug and to insist on lower nicotine levels. They are most worried about the chance that Minnesota will hold out for a

jury trial, which could yield a verdict wildly at odds with other deals.

The growing role of the courts in shaping policy is not new. What has changed is the fondness of juries for setting huge punitive damages to "send a message", often directed against big business.

As *The Wall Street Journal* argued on Monday, in an editorial on "our crazed legal system", it has become rational for companies to settle for large sums to avoid the chance of huge, unpredictable costs. It is no surprise that shares of tobacco companies have risen steadily as the settlements have pro-

ceeded. Indeed, the tobacco industry might think itself lucky not to be as badly hit as breast implant companies, many of which have been driven towards bankruptcy despite more than 20 recent scientific studies failing to show that implants caused the illnesses in question. On Monday, as Florida was announcing its smoking deal, Dow Corning, an implant manufacturer, agreed to pay \$2.4 billion to settle 300,000 claims.

As well as illustrating the new power of the courts, the tobacco deal, dreamed up by state attorneys-general, shows the way power is shifting from Washington to the state capi-

als. That has been pronounced since the end of the Cold War weakened one of Washington's main roles in the eyes of the rest of the country. It has accelerated since Mr Clinton and other Southern politicians came to power, with their very Southern instincts for handing power back to the Governors.

The danger is that these trends will make it impossible to design national policy. The warning springs clearly out of last year's most grandiose piece of lawmaking — the Telecoms Bill, intended to set ground rules for a decade and boost competition, an area where America badly lags behind Britain. But the right of

state regulators to overturn law in their region is making it less likely to be implemented.

The two questions left open by the tobacco deal are how to repair the legal system, and how much policy-making power can be given to the states without threatening America's ability to work effectively as one country. Ironically, the last White House attempt to look at the problems of the courts failed because of such legal and local challenges. The symptoms may be getting clearer; the solutions are not.

Pressure to settle, page 23

## America braced for the return of El Niño

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA is bracing itself for one of the wettest winters of the century after scientists predicted fierce storms, huge waves and up to three times the region's normal rainfall thanks to the so-called El Niño effect.

An epic meteorological "event" was forecast with rare confidence by San Diego experts monitoring the rapid warming of the equatorial Pacific. A five-degree jump in surface water temperatures there has brought storms and flooding to coastal South America and is expected to wreak havoc with normal winter weather patterns across much of the northern hemisphere.

This year's El Niño, which is already being blamed at least partly on global warming, could bring 200 per cent of normal rainfall to America's Pacific coast before Christmas and 300 per cent after, said Nicholas Graham of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. "This is an event to be reckoned with," he told 250 Red Cross and emergency workers at a Scripps workshop on El Niño.

"There is the possibility of extreme events, 300 per cent above normal rainfall as large as it gets in southern California."

El Niño is named after the Spanish word for child because its worst effects are usually felt around Christmas. Once little-understood, it is now blamed for storms, flooding and even blizzards that can occur thousands of miles from the main warming zone off Peru. Once expected every five to seven years, the effect is now being felt in California at least every other year.

In the winter of 1994-95, El Niño brought up to ten inches of rain a day and severe flooding even to inland cities such as Sacramento, the state capital. In March 1995 a section of the state's eight-lane north-south artery, the Interstate 5, was washed away by a flash flood. The Russian River, north of San Francisco, rose 32ft in 24 hours during one storm, and the Sierra Nevada found itself under a foot of new snow on June 15.

The state's emergency services are taking no chances this year. In the heat of the summer, storm drains and flood channels are already being cleared.

## Cyber soldiers set sights on tomorrow's war

FROM IAN BRODIE IN FORT HOOD, TEXAS

WHAT does tomorrow's American frontline soldier do when he runs out of water? He sends an e-mail asking to be resupplied.

Except that by then he may no longer be called a soldier, but rather a Land Warrior in the Army After Next.

After two years of trial and considerable error, the US Army has decided that computers can help to lift the fog of war. The Pentagon has just given the go-ahead for much wider use of electronic systems for an advanced war-fighting experiment. The goal is to give US ground troops such super-information on the battlefield that foes are quickly outmanoeuvred.

The Ministry of Defence is paying close heed. Liaison officers from the British Army watched the early exercises and will return in November when the concept is tested on a broader scale.

The laboratory of futuristic warfare is at Fort Hood, 400 square miles of parched terrain in the heart of Texas. One brigade has been used for initial trials and now the entire Fourth Infantry Division is to be "digitised".

That means more than 2,000 vehicles, tanks, artillery and helicopters will be linked together by computers relaying critical information about the position of "friendly" forces and latest sightings of the enemy. The Fourth Infantry Division has so many new gadgets that curious outsiders enabling them to see far across the battlefield, day or night, through a video camera mounted on their rifle sights. The viewfinder also told them their location.

From their laptops, Lieutenant Remaly's reconnaissance

patrols sent maps to him at platoon headquarters giving exact enemy positions. He knew where his men were and how close he could call in artillery strikes.

In the Gulf War, such pinpoint accuracy might have prevented many "friendly fire" deaths. During search-and-destroy missions in Vietnam, a battlefield Internet locator could have made the searches less hazardous for Americans.

Between exercises, staff officers with the Fourth Division are permanently engaged in on-screen electronic war games. It is the military equivalent of playing chess against IBM's Deep Blue. Division headquarters looks like NASA mission control, each officer with a laptop. The commanding general stands before half a dozen screens showing the battle from different angles.

Putting together digital forces is expensive. The Pentagon has already spent \$250 million (£156 million) and is embarking on a course that could eventually cost \$4 billion to outfit ten divisions.

That goal is still a long way off although William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, in his defence review, strongly endorsed the creation of an "information age" army. The present target is to equip the Fourth Infantry Division with computers by 2000, followed by the 1st Cavalry Division, creating the first electronic corps no later than 2004.

The Nintendo generation feels right at home. Old sweats are more sceptical. They always keep a compass and a real map tucked in their packs for when the computers crash.

needed half a dozen cables and connectors to plug all parts together. Lieutenant Remaly said: "It was like wearing an octopus. It was also unreliable."

When it did work, though, the "poor bloody infantry" felt they had been upgraded to first-class. They were exuberant about the viewfinder enabling them to see far across the battlefield, day or night, through a video camera mounted on their rifle sights. The viewfinder also told them their location.

From their laptops, Lieutenant Remaly's reconnaissance

◀ The Nintendo generation feels right at home. Old sweats remain more sceptical ▶



A US soldier tests a cyber system with television sights, digital communications and computer links. The army wants to equip its Fourth Division with computers by 2000

## AROUND AMERICA

### Asylum for Korea defectors

Washington: The State Department has granted political asylum to two high-level North Korean defectors who fled their posts in Egypt and France (Tom Rhodes writes).

Jang Seung Il, 48, the North Korean Ambassador to Egypt, who is believed to have valuable information about missile sales to Iran and Syria, left his post in Cairo on Monday last week using a false passport. He was followed by Jang Seung Ho, his brother, who was North Korea's trade representative in Paris.

### Cuba 'crop war'

Washington: Cuba accused America of biological warfare yesterday (Tom Rhodes writes). It said a small aircraft registered to the State Department sprinkled the larvae of crop-destroying insects on a potato crop last October and that the insect plague had spread to other crops. The accusations were dismissed as "ridiculous and without merit" by the State Department.

### Airborne battle

New York: A judge here has sued a radio talk-show host for libel after the latter referred to him on air as a "drunk", a "senile old dirtbag" and an "embittered old fool" (Tunku Varadarajan writes). Don Imus claimed that his wife was insulted by Judge Harold J. Rothwax when she served as a juror in his court.

### Crocs recover

Washington: America's crocodiles are back from the brink of extinction (Tom Rhodes writes). Although a rare sight, there are now more crocodiles than 20 years ago in Florida, their only native home in America. Scientists predict the population may reach 3,000.

## Sultan wins immunity in sex case

By GILES WHITTELL

THE Sultan of Brunei, the world's richest man, has been granted "sovereign immunity" from a sexual harassment lawsuit filed against him by a California beauty queen whom friends have called "naïve at best".

Shannon Marketic, a former Miss USA, claims she was invited to the oil-rich sultanate under false pretences last year and once there was gassed, sexually manhandled and held a virtual prisoner in the palace for 32 days.

She is seeking \$90 million (£56 million) in damages, but faces an uphill struggle proving her case. Top-level diplomatic and justice Department officials have closed ranks against her and other women



Marketic claimed she was a royal prisoner

invited to Brunei have come forward to cast doubt on her story. Declaring that "United States foreign policy interests are at stake, the State Department granted the Sultan a

version of diplomatic immunity last month as "the head of state of a friendly foreign country". On Monday, a Los Angeles federal judge duly dropped his name from Miss Marketic's lawsuit, though the Sultan's brother, Prince Jefri, could still face a trial.

Miss Marketic, 27, alleges that a Los Angeles talent agency offered her an expensive-paid trip to Brunei last summer to do "marketing and promotional work" at the palace for \$3,000 a day, but no sexual services will be required.

The beauty queen, who describes herself as deeply religious, flew to Brunei in August 1996 and was driven to the Sultan's 1,776-room palace. On arrival she claims she was given blood tests for

sexually transmitted diseases and had her passport and return ticket confiscated.

"Shannon freaked out", an actress friend, Kelly Vaughn said on her return, "but what could she do?"

A statement issued by the Sultan's publicist after the decision to grant him immunity called the lawsuit "frivolous and self-serving" and insisted that Miss Marketic "has never been to the royal palace, nor was she ever invited to Brunei by either His Majesty or Prince Jefri".

Gil Grunsky, a producer and friend of Miss Marketic in Los Angeles, has called her a "straight-up, honest woman" who would not have lied about such a trip but who was "naïve" to think sexual favours would not be asked of her.

## Cyberspace gives astronaut the right to vote from orbit

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

TEXAN astronauts in space will shortly be able to vote for elections on Earth via e-mail.

David Wolf, a space scientist from Houston who is scheduled to be on the Russian space station Mir in November, will send his celestial vote from a lap-top computer straight to a polling station in the Lone Star state during the elections for Houston's city council.

The vote will be encrypted to protect it from prying eyes, and will be decoded in Houston by election officials. According to Tony Garza, the Texas Secretary of State, Dr Wolf's vote will speed through space to Russia, from where it will be diverted to the American space agency NASA, which

will finally dispatch it — still secret — to Texas. This alliance between science and democracy is the result of the frustration suffered last year by John Blaha, another Texan astronaut on board Mir. He was unable to vote in the state elections last November, having left Earth long before the absentee ballots were drawn up.

Mr Garza, who described himself as "the jerk who wouldn't let Blaha vote", revealed that it was a matter of principle that a Texan astronaut should never again be robbed of his suffrage. He said: "It was terribly frustrating to me. Here we had an individual who clearly wanted to participate in the electoral

process, even though he was in outer space." Texas enlisted the help of Linda Godwin, a computer scientist and a veteran of three space-shuttle missions.

Dr Godwin devised a software programme that should ensure the casting soon of the longest-distance vote in history. The NASA laptops are equipped with a "Vote" icon on the screen. A click of the mouse produces a tiny Internet version of *Stars and Stripes Forever*. The importance of the exercise, Dr Godwin said, was as emotional as it was political. "I can't tell you what it means to know that you're doing the same thing that folks are doing back home."

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# De Klerk quits to free his party from past

Mandela praises apartheid leader who paved the way for democracy

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

F.W. DE KLERK, who led South Africa out of the dark age of apartheid to democracy and served in government under Nelson Mandela, left the political stage yesterday and retired as leader of the National Party.

South Africa's last white President said that he was leaving politics to free his party from the "baggage" which linked it with a "guilt-laden past".

An unemotional Mr de Klerk, 61, said in Cape Town: "With my retirement I wish to open a door for the National Party to provide further proof of its dynamic break with the past. With this, the National Party once again enters a further phase as a future-oriented, non-racial party, focused on the challenges and problems of today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow."

Although freed of its most high-profile link to apartheid, Mr de Klerk's hopes that the party which institutionalised racism would be able to evolve into an effective challenge to President Mandela's African National Congress looked unlikely to be fulfilled.

After months of infighting the party has suffered a haemorrhage of liberals, led by Roelf Meyer. Mr de Klerk's chief negotiator in the run-up to the 1994 elections, who have left the party under pressure from rightwingers. Support

for the party has fallen from a 1994 high of about 20 per cent to 12 per cent, according to recent opinion polls, as it has failed to shed its image of being a movement for mainly white interests and a hiding place for mixed-race Afrikaans-speaking voters in the Western Cape fearful of "black domination".

After eight years as leader of the party, which he took over

**Whatever mistakes he may have made, I hope South Africa will not forget the role he played in its transformation**

from an ailing P.W. Botha in 1989, Mr de Klerk appears to have been exhausted by the political tightrope on which he inched his party towards reform, while trying to maintain support among his conservative members.

His boldest move was to lift the ban on the ANC and announce the release of Mr Mandela in 1990, thereby

setting the pace of South Africa's swift transition from white supremacy to black-dominated democracy.

Last night Mr Mandela praised Mr de Klerk, with whom he shared the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize, for his part in the transformation of the country. "Whatever mistakes he may have made, and it is possible that he has made very fundamental mistakes as many of us have done, I hope South Africa will not forget the role he has played," the President said.

The most bitter comments came from the Far Right. General Constand Viljoen, the Freedom Front leader, said his departure was a "positive development for Afrikaner politics". Robert van Tonder, the Boerestaat Party leader, said Mr de Klerk was leaving under a cloud of contempt and that his treachery to his "own people" [in ending apartheid] was unequalled.

Mr de Klerk proved unable to harness attention to his party while serving as Deputy President under Mr Mandela until June last year, and then as leader of the Opposition.

His only notable act this year was to continue to deny under oath any knowledge of state-sanctioned terrorism and murders while he was President — to the incredulity of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which has



President Mandela and Mr de Klerk, then Deputy President, celebrate the adoption of South Africa's first democratic constitution in May 1996

ordered him to think a little harder. The denial lost the party what support it may have begun to garner among black conservatives seeking an alternative to the ANC. This slide is likely to continue

as Hennis Kriel, Premier of the Western Cape's provincial government, emerged as the favourite to replace Mr de Klerk when a new leader is elected on September 9.

If Mr Kriel takes the leader-

ship, for which there are no black challengers, the party may risk fading from its once dominant position before 1994 to a minority movement centred in the Cape. Harald Parkendorf, a political ana-

lyst, said Mr Kriel had no profile or support beyond the "Hex River mountains" close to Cape Town. Sensing this, Mr Meyer, the former party secretary-general, said that the party could look forward

to increased marginalisation. "I have no doubt that many more people will now reconsider their political position," he said.

R.W. Johnson, page 16

## Sri Lanka seeks poll on Tamil rule

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

THE Sri Lankan Government plans to call a referendum to push through sweeping devolution proposals designed to hand political power to the Tamil minority. It will be the second referendum in nearly 50 years of independence, a measure of the Government's determination to reduce centralised authority and end 14 years of civil war.

Collapse of the proposals would further alienate the Tamils, who suffered years of discrimination from the ma-

jority Sinhalese. The Government has a one-seat majority in parliament: with support from its allies it remains 12 seats short of the two thirds majority necessary to push through the most radical power redistribution in more than a century.

Hardline Buddhist clergymen, although increasingly less of a political force, will mobilise their full might against the devolution plan. The Government this week embarked on an intensive

campaign of high-level speeches to appeal directly to the people to support the changes, which require constitutional amendments. With the Tamil Tigers taking an unprecedented military beating, this is one of the best chances for peace.

The opposition United National Party, however, has opted for delaying tactics. It will not back the plan unless it is diluted, for fear of giving Tamils their own region in the North and East. President

Bandaranaike Kumaratunga believes that Sinhalese opinion is ready to accept radical measures to address what the Government admits are legitimate Tamil grievances.

Lakshman Kadirgamar, the Foreign Minister, a Tamil, said Sri Lanka ruled out any more ceasefires with the Tigers, who always used them to regroup. "We will never again get bogged down in negotiations with the Tigers," he said. "These people have to be knocked off their perch."

## Jamaican vow renews hope in Montserrat

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN PLYMOUTH, MONTSERRAT

JAMAICA'S Prime Minister has promised residents of volcano-troubled Montserrat that he will lead a new international effort to restore the "idyllic" island to its "pristine glory".

P.J. Patterson told them, on a brief visit, that he is "absolutely convinced" the northern third of the island remains safe.

Yesterday, presiding over a meeting of Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders in Antigua discussing ways to accelerate Montserrat's recovery, Mr Patterson criticised Britain for not moving fast enough to rebuild in the north. He labelled London's response to the volcano crisis as a lesson in "how not to respond to a disaster of this nature".

Caricom and Britain recently began work on two housing projects in the north for about 80 homes. But Britain has halted funds for another 200 homes.

The strong lead taken by Mr Patterson has brought new hope to many Montserratians. "For the first time the Government and the people of Montserrat are seeing that someone has faith in them — that someone is there for them in their time of need," David Brandt, the island's Chief Minister, said.

Up the narrow, winding road to the summit of Garibaldi Hill outside Plymouth, holiday villas with names like Panorama, Trelawny and Island View lie empty. Goats

run wild and cows graze by the side of the road.

Sandwiched between the volcano and a turquoise sea, Plymouth has taken on the appearance of a sick slope after an avalanche of volcanic material buried the city in rock and ash last month.

Scientists monitoring the volcano say they have detected "escalating" activity in recent days with ash vents and minor pyroclastic flows of super-heated gases and rock which cascade down the flanks of the crater.

"Collapse of material from the [lava] dome may lead to further explosions and these may be more intense and longer lived than those already experienced," the Montserrat Volcano Observatory reported yesterday.

Since the volcano first erupted in July 1995, thousands of Montserratians have been forced to abandon their homes. More than half of the island's 11,000 residents have gone abroad. Many of those who remain now live in crowded refugee shelters.

At the weekend Britain began a voluntary evacuation of the island, but many residents say they are determined to stay and only 22 people have so far boarded the evacuation ferries. According to scientists, the volcano's dome now measures about 75 to 80 million cubic metres, and is growing by up to six square metres, about the size of six fridges, a second.

There are some very precious parts of the dome. There's an enormous amount of it sitting above the valley, leading to Plymouth," said Dr Stephen Sparks, the Bristol university volcanologist who now heads the team of eight scientists at the observatory. But Dr Sparks said the north is relatively safe. Even in the unlikely event of an eruption ten times the size of the most violent so far, there would probably be little threat to lives or property in the north.

Leading article, page 17

### WORLD SUMMARY

## Hamas to carry on campaign

Jerusalem: The militant Islamic group, Hamas, rejected yesterday a Palestinian Authority request to suspend armed attacks against Israel (Ross Dunn writes). Hamas said it viewed armed struggle as a "strategic choice and a strong line of defence for the Palestinian people".

A senior aide to Yasser Arafat, the authority's President, confirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organisation had asked Islamic groups to stop attacks against Israel. The rejection of the request allows Mr Arafat to act strongly against the groups. But this is an option he has ignored, embracing Hamas leaders at a recent conference.

## Jailed Krenz lodges appeal

Berlin: Egon Krenz, East Germany's last hardline Communist leader, lodged an appeal yesterday against his manslaughter conviction for the deaths of refugees killed in the 1980s as they tried to flee over the Berlin Wall.

A Berlin court on Monday sentenced Krenz to 6½ years in prison. He was immediately led away to jail because authorities feared he would flee, although his sentence will not become legally binding until his appeal is heard. (Reuters)

## Doomsday cult enjoys revival

Tokyo: The Aum Shinrikyo doomsday cult, blamed for deadly nerve gas attacks, is undergoing a revival, security authorities said. A total of 427 Aum followers were arrested after the 1995 gas attack on Tokyo subways which killed 12 and injured thousands, but 138 returned after their release. Aum's fortunes changed after a legal panel rejected a government request to outlaw it, officials said. (AFP)

## Pressure to free China dissident

Hong Kong: A dozen democracy campaigners marched to the office of Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive, to demand that China release Wang Dan, 27, one of the Tiananmen Square protest leaders. Now serving an 11-year sentence, Wang was reportedly suffering from severe headaches and a stomach disorder. (AP)

## Mother's day

Calcutta: Volunteers sang Happy Birthday as Mother Teresa marked her 87th birthday at the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity. "Work for the poorest of the poor," she told them. (Reuters)

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Kaunda: shot grazed the top of his head

## Plot claim by shot Kaunda rejected

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF IN LUSAKA

PARAMILITARY police patrolled Zambia's capital, Lusaka, and provincial towns yesterday because of continuing protests over the shooting of Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, and an opposition political leader.

Dr Kaunda, 73, was slightly wounded by a bullet that grazed his head on Saturday after an opposition rally was cancelled and the crowd dispersed by police. Roger Chongwe, chairman of an opposition alliance of five Zambian parties, is recovering in hospital after also being hit by a bullet.

Fifty-three opposition supporters detained by police on Saturday remain in custody.

The Government has said it will investigate the apparent police shooting of the two men, but it rejected Dr Kaunda's accusation that it was a failed state plot to kill him. "We have no intention of eliminating him or any other opposition leader," said David Mpumbu, the Information Minister.

## Tribal elder fights skull return

FROM REUTERS IN PERTH

A TRIBAL elder claiming to be the descendant of Yagan, a 19th-century Aboriginal whose skull was recently exhumed from a grave in Liverpool, has threatened to crack a few contemporary skulls.

Corrie Bodney, who claims to be Yagan's oldest living relative, is fighting a battle with a rival clan which wants the head returned to Australia against his wishes. Mr Bodney took legal action to stop

the other clan from retrieving the skull, but was thwarted when his rivals flew to England on Monday before the case could be heard. "If we don't get an action in the court, it goes the other way, then it leaves me no alternative but to carry out traditional customary law against those who have broken the law," Mr Bodney told an Australian radio station yesterday. "That would entail a hit over the head with a dowsak — that's a fighting stick, a men's fighting stick."

The court action was due to be heard on Friday, but the delegation flew off to England on Monday to collect the skull and bring it back to reunite it with the body in a traditional burial ceremony. Mr Bodney said the delegation had no right under Aboriginal laws to proceed with its plan.

Robert Brophy, one of four elders who flew to England, said before he left that the suit was against Aboriginal culture. "It's depriving our statesman Yagan to have his head returned to his body," he said.



# Dutch social experiments go astray



The Netherlands' liberal policies have spawned drug cafes, an idea Europe is unlikely to copy

IN THE Amsterdam version of Madame Tussaud's waxworks, Tony Blair has already taken his place alongside an impossibly slim Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and a gaunt Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister. As the backpackers shuffle onwards, the penny (or the guilder) drops: both Britain and Germany are looking to The Netherlands, the social laboratory of Europe, for fresh ideas.

They should be warned: sometimes these ideas flop. Take the car pool, a project likely to appeal to the Labour Government. The Dutch have more cars per head than Britain — 382 per 1,000 inhabitants against 372. They had hoped to unlock the many traffic jams by dedicating stretches of motorway for car-poolers and buses, rewarding those who share their vehicles. The plan was borrowed from America where HOV — High Occupancy Vehicle — lanes already account for some 909 miles.

The Dutch set up a trial 4.2 mile stretch on the A1 between Amsterdam and Hilversum, at a cost of about £20 million. Apart from the satisfaction of being able to speed past cars without passengers, car-poolers were offered tax breaks. Yet the scheme collapsed.

Reluctant to separate the lane proved hugely expensive. Watchtowers had to be constructed, cameras installed and police motorcycle patrols roared up and down the lane — separated by a concrete wall from the rest of the motorway — to catch cheats. Some drivers installed two life-

Europe sees The Netherlands as an efficient laboratory for changing society. But Roger Boyes in Amsterdam discredits the idea



size inflatable dolls to qualify for the pooling lane. Undertakers insisted their corpses should count. Pregnant women reckoned that their unborn children increased the passenger toll. Traffic jams built up at the start of the car-pool lane (where a barrier blocked entry) and at the exit. Drivers complained that it was impossible, when travelling to four or five business appointments a day, to organise passengers for each trip. The lane was therefore discriminatory. In the end, the courts agreed: car drivers travelling alone had the right to be treated equally with those sharing their cars. The experiment was dropped.

Similar stories are told about other aspects of Dutch society which, in challenging taboos, seems to be setting itself up as a stimulating model. German Social Democratic deputies recently travelled to The Netherlands to find ways of reforming the welfare state and cutting unemployment. They were unimpressed.

Dutch unemployment had been cut from 12 per cent in 1982 to about 6.3 per cent, but the German politicians deplored the loss in Dutch job security, the large number of people in temporary employment (approaching 20 per cent), the high number in

inheritance laws that apply to married heterosexual couples. The number of open homosexuals in the services — and more importantly the police force — is increasing rapidly.

At city or town council level, there are dozens of small-scale initiatives. Kindergartens are being merged with old people's homes to stimulate pensioners.

Some experiments amount to little more than gimmicks: policemen are being put on inline skates to control pedestrian precincts. Subsidies to artists led to such an overproduction of paintings that the state had used up all available storage space for these often mediocre works.

The big socio-ethical reforms — liberalisation of drugs and tolerance of euthanasia — are unlikely to be exported to Britain or Germany, though some German cities have copied a few elements of the Dutch drug model.

In north Germany, there is active discussion as to whether marijuana should be made available in pharmacies. But the heavy criticism of Dutch drug policy by France has set back the hopes of liberalisation that drugs would be decriminalised throughout the European Union.

Some so-called coffee shops — soft drug cafes — are even asking for passports before selling joints. Euthanasia, legally tolerated in The Netherlands under certain conditions, continues to spark angry debates and the disapproval of the Vatican. No other European country is eager to copy this particular Dutch model.

## Army splits ranks in Bosnia power clash

FROM MISHA SAVIC IN BANJA LUKA

THE tussle for power in the Serb half of Bosnia intensified yesterday, with half the army's top generals supporting President Plavsic of Republika Srpska in her attempt to wrest power from Radovan Karadzic, the war crimes suspect.

Four of the Serbs' eight senior army commanders met Mrs Plavsic in her stronghold of Banja Luka. Those who stayed away included the army's Chief of Staff, General Pero Colic, a deputy of his, and the commanders of the two

army corps in the eastern half of Bosnia, which is under the control of Dr Karadzic and his allies in their stronghold of Pale, east of Sarajevo.

The boycott by four generals suggested that the army, like all other Bosnian Serb institutions, is split in the struggle between Dr Karadzic and Mrs Plavsic, a Serb nationalist and former Karadzic ally who now accuses him of getting rich while his people starve.

Comments attributed by pro-Karadzic media to General Colic, the present Chief of

Staff, indicate he supports Dr Karadzic. General Colic was attending a meeting near Sarajevo yesterday with Nato officials and his Muslim and Croat counterparts. Spokesmen for the Nato-led peace force said he would be reminded that the military should stay out of the Karadzic-Plavsic struggle.

Bosnian Serb army sources said before Mrs Plavsic's meeting with the generals that she would name a replacement for General Colic. Her favourites are General Momir Talic, commander of the Banja Luka-based 1st Corps, or General Novica Simic, 3rd Corps commander.

Mrs Plavsic said on Monday she would see "whether the Chief of Staff and the corps commanders are people who know where the place of the army is."

Although she says Serbs should settle the power struggle by themselves, the peace force and international envoys have given her key backing. Hundreds of British and Czech soldiers with the force intervened last week to foil an alleged attempt to oust her.

The main American aid agency has lent support to Mrs Plavsic, announcing its first loans — of \$1.1 million — to Bosnian Serb companies. This is part of a package agreed with Mrs Plavsic and seems intended to underline that those who support the Dayton peace accord — as Mrs Plavsic says she does — will get funding denied to Dr Karadzic, whose half of Bosnia is desperately poor. (AP)



Mrs Plavsic greets supporters at her Banja Luka office

## Jewish cancer link discovered

BY NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

A NEW genetic defect which doubles the risk of colon cancer is particularly common among Jews whose origins lie in Eastern Europe, American scientists have discovered.

Until now, the mutation detected was believed to be no more than minor spelling

errors in the genetic code with no serious consequences. But a study at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre in New York has shown it to be the commonest cancer-linked mutation found in any ethnic group.

The gene involved is called APC. The new mutation, reported in *Nature Genetics*,

was discovered when a patient who had several colorectal cancers was checked for the known APC variations. Doctors found minor changes called polymorphisms, believed to have no deleterious effects. The same changes were then found in more than a quarter of Ashkenazi Jews with a family history of such cancers.

## French pioneers caught out by the Net

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN PARIS

MINITEL, the home-grown French computer service, is being outpaced by the global Internet and is heading for extinction. Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, warned his fellow countrymen this week.

The Minitel system, a computer network linked by telephone lines pioneered by France in the early 1980s, was a justified source of intense national pride that spread rapidly to more than a fifth of French homes. But the system, almost entirely in French and offering a wide variety of services from train timetables to telephone directories to weather reports, is gradually being overtaken by the world-wide Internet.

In a speech at a communications seminar on Monday, M Jospin said that France was falling behind other industrialised nations in its access to the Internet and its use of the new technology. He called for the "vast range of Minitel services to be transferred to the Internet."

"The question of Minitel's future is important. Its simple format and the security it offers for transactions have provided an example of what users can expect from new networks like the Internet," he said.

But he added that the Minitel, as "a uniquely national system, is technologically limited and risks putting an increasing brake on new and promising information technologies."

According to France Telecom, the state telephone company, just 15 per cent of French families have a home computer, compared to 40 per cent in the United States. More than six million Minitel screens are currently in use in France, but the technology has hardly changed since the system was first launched.

## Yeltsin hits back at Mir critics

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN took a verbal swipe yesterday at critics of Russia's Mir space station, declaring that the orbiter was in good working order and would continue to serve for the foreseeable future.

Speaking during a visit to the Volgograd city of Saratov, the Russian leader borrowed an old Communist slogan used to describe Lenin, when he insisted Mir "is alive and will keep on living."

On Monday night, NASA caused a mini-crisis when it announced that both of Mir's oxygen-generating systems had broken down and that the three-man crew of two Russian cosmonauts and the British-born astronaut Michael

Smith had enough air for a few days. "There is no tragedy here," said the Kremlin leader, who insisted the oxygen generators had been repaired. "They [the Americans] thought the station was finished. They thought we could no longer do experiments on it... but it is still alive."

Although the NASA claims were correct, the announcement from Houston came after the Elektron oxygen generator and the back-up cannister system had already been repaired and the crew had gone to sleep.

Russian space officials yesterday reacted angrily to what they regard as interference

from their American partners, who are essentially paying guests on Mir, and what they feel is a media circus surrounding Mir's fate.

"To our greatest joy, and I think your disappointment, nothing extraordinary has happened aboard the station," Vladimir Solovoy, the head of Russia's mission control, told reporters. "Everything is fine. We have no problems with the quality of air on board."

Part of the Russian sensitivity about the breakdowns on Mir can be attributed to a culture clash with American working procedures. According to space officials, Mir has had more than 1,500 break-

downs during its 11-year service in space and Russian cosmonauts are used to fixing and repairing parts without fuss, a concept alien to the perfectionists at NASA.

In spite of the differences, the two sides are pressing ahead with long-term plans for Mir, which is receiving an additional 50 amps of electricity after a repair operation on Friday, when essential power cables were reconnected to the orbiter.

Yesterday Yuri Baurin, the secretary of Russia's Defence Council, confirmed he had begun space training to become the first bureaucrat in orbit and hopes to visit Mir in 1998.

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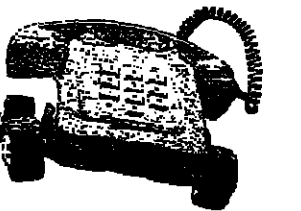
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## Flight of Phoenix revives Alpine past

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE first bearded vulture born wild in the Alps for more than a century has been seen on the wing by scientists taking part in a 19-year reintroduction programme.

The bird, living in the Haute Savoie region of France, was born in a high mountain eyrie in April. But its birth was kept a secret for fear of human disturbance.

The pair behind the historic birth, a male called Melchior, born at Innsbruck zoo and released into the wild in May 1988, and a female called Assinella, born at Garenne zoo in Switzerland and released in July 1989, had mated in 1994 and were preparing a

But Melchior abandoned it for over a year after interference by a photographer. The new arrival has vindicated efforts by groups including AlpAction, an organisation headed by Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, which brings together corporate and green groups to fund conservation schemes.

"The arrival of Phoenix Alp Action (the bird's name) is a tremendous, albeit sadly too rare, victory for conservation and the environment in general," he said in Geneva yesterday.

The last recorded births of bearded vultures in the wild were in Austria and Switzer-





# High heel silver lining

Stiletto heels have made a comeback – in silver, chrome, satin and suede. Style Editor Grace Bradberry chooses four of the best



**ABOVE:** Black suede and gold piping booties, £120 by Stephane Kelian, 48 Sloane Street SW1. Angora dress, £190 by Plain Sud at selected branches of Whistles. Silver ID bracelet, from £200 by Tateossian 0171-351 5680

**ABOVE LEFT:** Satin slingbacks, £270 by Jimmy Choo, 20 Motcomb Street SW1. Satin skirt, £130 by Whistles

**LEFT:** Snakeskin and chrome heel stilettos, £155 by Russell & Bromley, 24/25 New Bond Street, W1. Pencil skirt, lace top, both £130 Marcel Marongiu at Pellicano, 63 South Molton St, W1

**RIGHT:** Red patent silver spike heel, £230 by Gucci, 33 Old Bond Street, W1. Velvet skirt, £175 by Tracie Boyd at The Cross, 141 Portland Road, W11. Tank top, £90 by Joelynnian at Pellicano, details as before. ID bracelet by Tateossian

Photographer ALEX SARGINSON. Stylist Deborah Brett. Hair Nicola Clarke at Premier for Andrew Jose. Model: Natalie Massey at Storm

## Short, sharp shock

Down at fashion police headquarters, the alarm sirens are shrilling. The hippyish, gentle, self-deprecating clothes that have dominated the catwalks in recent seasons, with their narrow shoulders and natural lines, muted colours and pretty little flowery details, have been replaced by a hard-edged, self-confident look that is provocative in every sense of the word. Jackets with shoulder pads sharp enough to suit the most exigent East End wide boy are worn with an abbreviated strip of skirt, some featuring (as though the amount of leg on show wasn't extreme enough already) a bold asymmetric slash.

And the whole lot is perched on vertiginous spike heels in stark shades of red, black or grey. The best of them, like the Gucci pair shown here, are fitted with a dagger heel of metal, to give a steely glint of menace as one strides out.

It is not, admittedly, the easiest look to get right. The

spectre of Soho hovers over it. Already, shocked parents and staid boyfriends can be heard rehearsing the words to "You're not thinking of going out like that, I hope", and the Cassandra of the fashion pages are issuing warnings that no one over 30 should even attempt it.

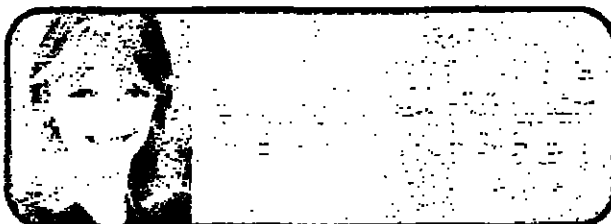
One could, of course, give

The news that a look only works with heels always seems to raise walls of consternation. Impractical, uncomfortable, impossible to move in, people say. Oh, and they make one terribly unpopular, because of the dents they make in parquet flooring.

Of these, only the last statement is strictly correct. It is true that a badly made high heel is an instrument of torture — as detrimental to one's temper as it is to one's feet. But a well-

constructed, properly balanced and fitted stiletto can be a joy to wear, and far more flexible to walk in than the rigid, clomping platforms of last year.

As for impossible to move in — well, in a world full of people rushing about, a slow, graceful saunter can be a very sexy way of getting around. But anyone who has seen Marilyn Monroe belting down the boardwalk on her six-inch stilettos in the final scene of *Some Like It Hot* knows that if a girl suddenly needs to put on a turn of speed to catch her millionaire, the fact that she is wearing a pair of high heels is not going to stop her.



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# 'Literature is the only art which can make you feel and think at the same time'

Literary stardom may just elude him, but Scottish novelist Allan Massie is content with his lot.  
Interview by Magnus Linklater

The great novelist took a step backwards on the little jetty to pose for his picture beside a lily pond. It would have made a striking portrait, but fate intervened. What seemed solid was rotten. The wood gave way, and the novelist landed on his backside in the muddy water.

The metaphor was too good to be missed. "Happiness and prosperity, like civilisation, are fragile," mused Allan Massie as he donned a clean pair of trousers and reached for a second packet of Gauloises. "Misery and hardship and barbarism lurk just beneath the surface — it's as easy as that."

Duckings apart, misery and hardship were not immediately apparent as we sat in the Borders sunshine last week outside the Massie home near Selkirk. The lawns were neatly mowed, the herbaceous border was in good order. Mr Massie himself looked carefully tended. His new novel, *Shadows of Empire*, published earlier this month, was collecting favourable reviews. "An important work," said Muriel Spark, and, as usual, his telephone was signalling yet another commission.

Mr Massie's journalistic output is prodigious. In the course of a week, one can read his columns in *The Sunday Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Scotsman* and the *Daily Mail*, to say nothing of

contributions to *The Spectator* and erudite book reviews in the literary journals. Over the past few years his productivity rate has outstripped even that of writers as tireless as Paul Johnson and Auberon Waugh. His frame of reference is extensive, his memory formidable. From his Borders vantage point, he issues stern warnings about the headlong rush towards devolution in Scotland while analysing the modern relevance of Edmund Burke. Though born and bred a Scot, he still regards himself as British. Like his fellow-Borderer and hero, Sir Walter Scott, he is an unfashionable Unionist.

"If Scotland moves towards devolution, it will move towards independence, and while that doesn't worry me on the personal level, I think a lot will be lost if the Union goes," he says mildly.

His columns put it more forcefully. "Allan," says a friend, "is the last of a vanishing species: the North Briton. He writes well about Scotland, but he is out of sympathy with the present mode." His European themes, his urbane prose and his geographical detachment have made him something of an outsider among Scottish writers. He may be the best literary craftsman north of the border, but he is rarely accorded the same respect as novelists such as James Kelman, Alasdair Gray, William McEwan or Irvine Welsh, who draw on Scot-

land's urban culture and language.

At the same time, his novels, despite their great and important themes, have not taken any of the big London literary prizes. *The Sins of the Fathers*, perhaps his finest work, failed to make the Booker shortlist in 1991, prompting Nicholas Mosley to resign as a judge in protest. Richard Cobb called *One Night in Winter* the best novel about drink he had ever read, but again it fell at the last hurdle. *A Question of Loyalties*, set in Vichy France, was a *succès d'estime*, but never quite made the breakthrough to public acclaim.

"Fashion has a lot to do with it," he says briskly. "Immortality doesn't bother me." He denies that his journalism interferes with his fiction, and says he regards the two as equally valuable. "Scott and Dickens churned out journalism as well as novels," he says. "I get a buzz out of journalism, I think I'm lucky to be allowed to do it." Nevertheless, he sees writing novels as "an act of craftsmanship", a skill he rates highly. "I want to make something beautiful and delightful. Ford Madox Ford said that literature is the only art which can make you feel and think at the same time."

As to whether he has yet written a great novel, he leaves it to others to judge, but it might be fair to conclude from his guarded comments that he has not yet achieved

his best. A sense of brooding insecurity runs through much of his work. "Count no man fortunate till he is dead..." says Caesar Augustus in one of Mr Massie's Roman novels, *Augustus*. "I have learnt that fate never smiles with constant benignity on any man." The governing themes of his books are treachery and betrayal and the fragility of success.

**'Allan is the last of a vanishing species: the North Briton. He writes well about Scotland, but is out of sympathy with the present mode'**

Some of this distrust may stem from the remarkable story of his parents, and his far from conventional childhood. His father, a rubber-planter in Malaya, was captured in Singapore and spent most of the war in a Japanese prisoner of war camp, while Allan was brought up with his brother and sister in the North East of Scotland. His father suffered ap-

palling and was lucky to survive, yet when he returned to Scotland after the war, it was not long before he decided to go back. While Allan went to prep school in Aberdeenshire, his father returned to Malaya. His mother stayed in Scotland to run the farm she had inherited. Later, the Massies divorced. Allan's father married again, and that, in the normal course of events, would have been that.

Except that 20 years later, he returned to Britain for health reasons, and remarried his first wife, Allan's mother. For the next 25 years, they lived together happily. Two years ago, Allan's mother died, but his father is still alive. "Yes, it is an extraordinary story," the author concedes. But clearly it has left its scars. The absence of his father, to whom he always looked up, left a gap in his life during the long years of private schooling.

"I felt a lack, and this curious thing that the children of divorced people often have, a sense of guilt. I didn't see him very often. He would come up to school to take me out, we would spend the occasional weekend in London."

"At school I never let on my parents were divorced, there was a feeling in those days that people from broken homes somehow weren't trustworthy. But I remained very fond of him and had enormous respect for what he had done. He had done everything for

himself, gone out to Malaya at 19, that kind of thing. Compared to him, I have led a very pampered existence."

Pampered, possibly, but not untold. His Cambridge days were spent in the company of a hard-drinking poker-playing school that included the playwright Simon Gray and the broadcaster Colin Bell. Then, for 11 years, he taught at Drumtochty Castle, the prep school where he himself had been educated.

His job brought him into contact not just with his future wife, Alison — who had been in her pram when he was first a pupil there — but with her sister, the writer Elspeth Barker, whose novel *O Caledonia* presents a Gothic picture of life at Drumtochty. The school itself teetered often on the brink of insolvency, and there are splendid stories of bailiffs being kept at bay from the battlements. Mr Massie himself will say only that it was an "absorbing" period, and that "when we were off duty we tended to go to the pub a lot."

Elspeth Barker recalls her brother-in-law was a popular and stimulating teacher, but confirms the hard-drinking sessions. She also remembers that although he never learnt to drive, he bought himself "a beautiful car, which sat in front of the house". Massie would occa-

sionally sit behind the wheel, and once left it with the brake off. It glided, driverless, down the road towards who knows what fate — another elegant Massie metaphor.

When the school finally went bankrupt he went to work in Rome, married Alison, then returned to a precarious literary existence in Edinburgh. It was not until the offer of a dower house in the Borders transformed their lives that he took up his present rural existence and began to list his recreations as "cricket and rugby and watching my daughter competing in pony club events". These days he may be seen in an old tweed hat and corduroy trousers towing a bedraggled pony behind him through the garden.

The drinking days, he says, are over, and our conversation was conducted over nothing more threatening than a string of Gauloises and a cup of tea. He is still prey to black moods, however, a Calvinistic sense that fate is ready to pitch him into the lily pond of life. "Melancholy," he says, "keeps breaking in. I think old Enoch [Powell] said that all political life ends in failure because all human life ends in failure." On the other hand, as we gazed round the sun-dappled lawn and the rolling Borders hills, there were, it seemed, some compensations as well.

● *Shadows of Empire*, by Allan Massie, Sinclair Stevenson, £15.99

## A curious breed brought to book

Out-of-print book searches are such a curious breed. My grandmother was one and so was I during my first few years in Britain. She ended up with 20,000-odd books, mostly kept on the third floor of her house in Brooklyn Heights.

The floor sagged from the weight of a skyline mimicking the one just across the East River; precariously swaying towers of books you had to negotiate and weave your way round, just one small slender volume, placed however delicately on the top, and the whole edifice would tumble down in a heap, which would remain on the floor for weeks, months, years. On one occasion, I entered the book domain to find my grandmother sprawled on the floor like an insect stranded on its back, legs waving in the air.

My grandfather tried to keep up, building shelves wherever he could find space; there was never enough. Otherwise, he steered clear of the book floor, which was most definitely my grandmother's territory. Occasionally, he would appear and stand there, looking around him — awkward, uncomfortable, distressed, but never allowing himself to say too much. He,

Old books are in Eva Salzman's blood. Her grandmother's house was full of them, and then she, in turn, caught the bug too

who loved conversation and hated argument, was never himself up there. "There's nothing to read," he'd finally grumble, and disappear off to the library.

"How interesting," people would comment when I told them what I did. It wasn't really. Much of the job was wrapping and unwrapping books, writing letters, filing and compiling a want list, all done without a computer. Years ago, I had waxed lyrical to my grandmother about the benefits of one, before I even knew anything about the subject myself. But she was too set in her ways and too used to the mountains of papers and cards which made up her work area. "Whatever you do," she'd say despairingly, "don't do this."

Unless you are scouring auctions and buying at the top end of the market, the business yields little more than pocket money. But there is a spurious stubbornness that characterises the book dealer. One well-known out-of-print book dealer with a shop in Brighton would positively dis-

courage sales with his three floors of chaos and a triumphant "no" to my every inquiry. I think he thought I was out to "steal" some unknown rarity, and softened when he found that most of the purchases were for myself. Other dealers would quote prices so high you felt that they had no intention of selling, but were simply making a business-like gesture, to prove that they weren't just lunatic hoarders of the printed word.

The first sale my grandmother made she regretted instantly. The next day she bought the book back again. Also, she was obsessed with re-using paper and envelopes. This was a standard eccentricity in the business: sometimes I'd get letters or notes from dealers written around the margins of paper that was already crumpled full. Generally, the handwriting was cursive, deliberately indecipherable. Or else the writing was huge, or sometimes alternately huge and small — inflating and shrinking with each letter, as though the writer had a split personality.

Tom Paulin, Simon Armitage and other writers have approached me from time to time, looking for books. Armitage, looking for Weldon Kees, turned his search into a metaphor for the writer's life. In a poem about the experience of searching, he mentions my Brighton business (such as it was), and the paper on which I'd written his request getting crumpled up and lobbed into a wastepaper bin. There's some truth to this; poetry is notoriously difficult



"Much of the job was wrapping and unwrapping books"

to locate, since the print-runs are so small. Armitage both romanticised and made slightly sinister the nature of my business but that's poetic licence. The reasons he never found Kees were actually somewhat more prosaic.

One regular customer kept me afloat by ordering obscure Masonic handbooks and tur-

gid, pseudo-academic treatises printed in obscure low-cost towns, about the dark forces threatening the American people. (Quite ironic, really.) Much of this reeked of anti-Semitism and I had to remind myself that this collector was not necessarily a sympathiser.

There was the overfriendly book dealer or supplier, who

felt that your being in the same business signified some deep spiritual connection. The Americans were particularly outstanding at this cosy Hi-yall-type friendliness, so that every quotation they sent for a found book was more like a letter from your Uncle Ed.

One supplier, whom I cannot recall ever using, sent me a photocopied letter each year about the family business: how things were going, how Frank's knee was getting on, what the cat was up to, who had died, things of this nature. Another supplier from California had dealt with my grandmother for years, and always asked after her, although I'm quite certain they had never met.

I took on my maiden across the water — the same maiden name, Klenett, she had always used. I no longer search for out-of-print books, although I keep thinking I may return to it. I ended up with her two copies of Helene Hanft's *84 Charing Cross Road*. So many love affairs with London start with the 19th-century novel — mine did. I think my grandmother shared Hanft's somewhat embarrassing cliché American version of a London that consisted mainly of Regent's Park, Bloomsbury, St Paul's and Wren churches.

The eccentric book dealer continues to fascinate me, just as the books do: the illustrations and design, the marbled endpapers, the feel of worn bindings, the apologies in the introductions, the inscriptions, and, especially, all those obscure forgotten authors' names — rows of them, rows and rows of them.

● *Eva Salzman's latest book, Bargain with the Watchman, is available from OUP at £6.99*

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14 ARTSTHEATRE

Julian Glover's role in the new *Chips With Everything* made the veteran actor feel 19 again. Daniel Rosenthal reports

# Back with his teeth in the drill



That was then: Senior Officer Cadet Julian Glover (left), during his passing-out parade at Buller Barracks, Aldershot, in 1954

You could say that Julian Glover's preparation for this month's revival of *Chips With Everything* at the National Theatre began in 1954, eight years before Arnold Wesker wrote the play. As Private Glover, aged 19, his basic training as a National Service conscript revolved around the same relentless marching, boot-polishing and barrack-room tensions which Aircraftman Wesker, three years his senior, had already endured in the RAF, and which he would dramatise so vividly in *Chips*.

When the play opened at the Royal Court in 1962, Glover sat in the first night audience, "gobsmacked by the play's power, and thrilled that someone had really shown what the training was like".

Now, under Howard Davies's direction, he is about to play the Wing Commander whose battle of wits with Pip, the Wesker alter ego, threatened with court martial for disobeying an order, is a key element in *Chips*'s examination of conformity and compromise.

The performance will not be modelled on a specific figure from his Royal Army Service Corps days, but "there's no question that I heard the Wing Commander's voice many times among the officers who lectured us".

In rehearsals, he has found himself passing on first-hand insights about military life — "drinking, hygiene, sexual frustration, the stuff you can't research in books" — to Rupert Penry-Jones, who plays

Pip, and the other young actors taking on the roles of the RAF recruits. "After 40 years," he says, "I feel that National Service has finally been useful to me."

For Glover, as for so many of the hundreds of thousands of young men called up to bolster the nation's forces in the postwar years, conscription could hardly have come at a less convenient moment. At Allyn's, his public school in southwest London, he had acted in productions directed by Michael Croft, his English master and founder of the National Youth Theatre, and set his heart on a stage career. The order to report for training at Buller Barracks, Aldershot, arrived just after his first year at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

"I resented every moment of National Service because it kept me from what I wanted to do with my life," he says. "I sometimes wonder why we didn't just say: Sorry, we're not doing this. But after a while, you accepted this ghastly situation and got on with the job."

Like Pip, he was the only ex-public school boy in his billet, his "posh" accent mocked "for as long as it took the boys to realise I was no different". Like Wesker, he eventually came to enjoy square-bashing: the intensive drill which, in the playwright's words, transforms "a rabble of clumsy men... into a disciplined, efficient unit".

"Doing drill well is glorious," Glover says. "There is a tremendous satisfaction in the whole squad's feet coming down absolute-



This is now: Glover is drilled by Corporal Neil Tiller of the Coldstream Guards before tackling his role in the revival of Arnold Wesker's *Chips With Everything*

ly at the same moment, hands coming on to rifles with a resounding slap."

Although the Wing Commander does not have to square-bash, Glover was happy to join the *Chips* conscripts as they began to be knocked into shape by Corporal Neil Tiller of the Coldstream Guards. And for the first few days, he was "much better" at drill than the younger men.

Rehearsals have also made him realise that certain "physical automatics" are legacies of his army training. "We were issued with tiny towels, so after a bath you would remove the excess water by slapping down your body with your hands. I have done that ever since.

And if I stand on stage with my hands behind my back, in the 'at ease' position, I cross my thumbs, as demonstrated by Corporal Hill, the drill instructor in *Chips*."

Private Glover won over his officer selection board at the second attempt. Becoming a second lieutenant meant six weeks of additional training at Aldershot, where he was yelled at by Regimental Sergeant-Major Britten, "the terror of the whole Army" and, adding another level to Glover's connection with *Chips*, the man who trained the actors for the play's Royal Court premiere.

"My attitude was too placid to make me a good officer," Glover says. "But consider what I was

doing: commanding a supply depot in Plymouth and attending courses on how to store meat."

The irony is that, as actor rather than soldier, Glover's imposing height and patrician tones have always made him classic officer material. From the dastardly Lieutenant Northerton in *Tom Jones* (his film debut), to Tullus Aufidius opposite Alan Howard's RSC *Coriolanus* in the 1970s, to the general who blasts the rebel base at the start of *The Empire Strikes Back*, he has frequently been back in uniform.

In 1972, he came close to becoming the most famous officer in movie history: Commander James Bond. "I was a pretty serious

contender when Sean Connery gave up. But we all knew Roger Moore was going to get it." A decade later, that near-miss took on a frisson which still makes Glover smile: he played the villain in *For Your Eyes Only*, blown away by Moore in the final reel.

Wesker, who used his 1994 autobiography, *As Much As I Dare*, to vent his frustration at repeatedly having his new plays passed over by the National's director, Richard Eyre, is clearly, although not unreservedly, delighted about the revival. "I think Richard is as relieved as I am that he is getting one Wesker play in at the end of his reign," he says. "But, without wishing to sound churlish,

I would have preferred it to be a new work."

The RAF chapter in *As Much As I Dare* concludes with Wesker admitting to a "dark and heretical suspicion that conscription kept crime and violence to acceptable levels". He stops short of advocating its reintroduction, as does Glover, who is wary of "sounding reactionary". But Glover adds: "National Service, as Arnold shows in *Chips*, made us think about collective responsibility, about caring for something other than ourselves. We could do with a bit more of that today."

● *Chips With Everything* previews from Friday at the Lyttelton Theatre, London SE1 0JL (0171-928 2252)

## EDINBURGH THEATRE: Eliot's spiritual comedy returns to its birthplace

### Still a depth to the shallows

This spiritual comedy by T.S. Eliot remains the most — some might say, the only — important play that has had its premiere at the Edinburgh Festival. Although it appeared in 1949, not 1947, that is reason enough for making it part of the 50th anniversary celebrations which the organisers have contrived to throw this year as well as last.

How does *The Cocktail Party* stand up to revival? Well, I had forgotten how often the doorbell rings in Act 1, how much repetitive drawing-room chatter there is, and how cautious Eliot's verbal imagination had become after what he regarded as the failure of the more daring *Family Reunion*. I should have remembered Raymond Williams's accusations: that Eliot tried to spring poetry on the theatrical boulevards, only to lose his nerve and allow the boulevards to squelch the poetry. As another critic wrote, the man who hoped to usher in a new Elizabethan drama became "Pinter on stilts".

Philip Frank's production, sponsored by the Royal Bank of Scotland, is likely to leave you feeling that, yes, it would be as well to cut some of the

#### The Cocktail Party King's

flatter passages but, no, the play is far from slight. It does, after all, deal with two ways of expressing love. The first is through marriage, here represented by the evolution of self-absorbed Edward and aggressive Lavinia from one of the most quarrelsome couples in London to one of the fondest. The second way, and the one that clearly has Eliot's special blessing, is through self-sacrifice and asceticism. That is the path chosen by Celia Coplestone, the socialite who ends up crucified beside an antihill.

There are some fine performers in Frank's cast. Nobody can look as wet and morally bedraggled as David Bamber, who plays Edward. Nobody can babble and burble so annoyingly as Maggie Smeed, the old gossip who, like Simon Jones's know-all diplomat, turns out to have otherworldly insight and power. The main doubts are at the production's very centre. Catherine Cusack's Celia is so pettish when crossed you can-



Clive Merrison and Catherine Cusack: leads out of place in Philip Frank's production of *The Cocktail Party*

not quite credit the depths she eventually reveals. And Clive Merrison makes a very odd bird of Sir Henry Harcourt-Reilly, psychiatrist, guru and restorer of lost souls.

Maybe he wants to distance himself from Alec Guinness, who reportedly brought all his trademark gravity to the original production, and Rex Harrison, a debonair society shrink: but this edgy, self-doubting figure, with his skull-face and fierce staccato, sometimes seems more neurotic than his neurotics.

Still, he and his fellow players achieve what Eliot wanted. Mystery and boule-

vard drama need not be wholly at odds. No more need religion and everyday reality. The girl we are chatting up over a pink gin may have the makings of a saint and martyr. The doctor who gets embarrassingly drunk may be a guardian angel. The silly old lady who is boring us, the FO fogey who is regaling us with unlikely anecdotes, may be fulfilling purposes we cannot understand. Who knows — God may be at work even in the fashionable drawing rooms of London.

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#### GREAT BRITISH HOPES

### Rising stars in the arts firmament

#### MATTHEW TRUSLER

Age 20. "But you can knock two years off — that's what most artists tend to do!"

Profession: Violinist. He has been hailed as one of the most remarkable young violinists in years, noted for his rare and almost old-fashioned virtuosity.

Old-fashioned? Though his repertoire is wide, he has made a speciality of works by the great 19th-century composer-virtuosos such as Paganini, Wieniawski and Sarasate. "This music has been almost frowned on in England, where we're a little

embarrassed to show off. It's a shame — there's nothing wrong with virtuosity."

The harder the music the better? "Well, it's true that Schubert and Mozart are more difficult to make a good job of. But when you're young it's much more fun to tackle something that seems to be impossible. A lot of this music is very beautiful. People tend to play it too mechanically, forgetting that someone like Paganini was pretty outrageous on stage."

So outrageous is OK? "It's annoying when hopelessly



untalented players are marketed just because they look good in a swimming costume. But it can't be a bad thing if they really are bringing in an audience who wouldn't normally hear the violin."

Background: "My father's a

violinist, and I asked for a violin before I was two, my parents tell me." Lessons began at two and a half; at 13 he went to the Royal Academy of Music, then studied in Salzburg and Rotterdam, and is now at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia.

Where can we hear him? He will play this year with the Royal Philharmonic, Tenenice and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestras, and give recitals at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, and St David's Hall, Cardiff.

How does he relax? "I see my friends every day, and they're all non-musicians. I'm madly into sports, and, like everyone else, just try to have fun."

JOHN ALLISON

## Mondrian at the Tate

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## Alan Coren



■ Those whom the photo-opportunity hath joined, let no man put asunder

There surely can be no prospect more guaranteed to fibrillate the carling heart than the sight of an innocent young couple, hand-in-hand, dew-eyed, and sweetly dimpling, as they prepare to embark together on a lifetime in public relations. Who that observes them take those initial plucky steps into the gawping mob while simultaneously composing their soft pink faces into the first of a million radiant smiles, does not tremble for them? Might he, as she steps, read in something? Might she, as she smiles, reveal a shred of spinach? Might they, attempting a crowd-pleasing, lens-pulling kiss, bang conks? Will they, in short, get it right? More important yet, will they, in long, go on getting it right forever, with nary a lurch, down the long arches of the years that lie, pitfall-strewn, before them?

Bank Holiday Monday was the first day of the rest of William and Fion's life. The phoney war was over, five years of no-quarter tooth-and-claw PR stretched inexorably ahead, the Blairs were about to return in stellar triumph from their Grand Tour of European photo-opportunity — what option did William and Fion have but to gird their loins and charge towards the sound of the promotional guns? So they gird them in faded cotton and plunged into the valley of the Notting Hill Carnival, and we who were there will not soon forget the cold sweat that broke out upon our craning brows as each new career-threatening challenge was so gamely faced: would William and Fion, kined out, perhaps misguidedly, as bygone colonial re-planters, succeed as effortlessly as those to the manner born in draining their cocoons, or would it all end in dribbled chins and stained shirts, would their neo-extrovert bid for a rousing conjoint blast on their neck-hung whistles be thwarted by a recalcitrant pea or a tension-detracted lip, would Fion's fetching Cello-Caribbean jig turn into an undignified purler and a desperate falling grab at the nearest Jamaican rouser? None, thank God, of the above. The lucky couple even managed to sup, in full public view, two tinctures called, in her case, Fresh Lady and, in his, Loose Johnnie, without any members of the huge crowd shrieking out any of the myriad unseemly possibilities, or rolling helplessly around on the cobbles.

So the day, against the odds, went well. But it was only, I repeat, the first day of the thousands which surely separate the happy pair from any realistic bid for a successful end to the business in which all such days are the means. Who that has a calendar does not fear, on their behalf, for the promotional requirements of Ramadan, or Passover, or Diwali, or Burns Night, or even Christmas? Can Fion make a reasonable stab at the fingerbells without entangling her sari, will William appear unacceptably short when the mosque requires him to slip his elevated shoes off, will he look a prat in a sporrán, is either of them capable of eating matzo without blowing fragments into the soup of the guest on their right, should they both sport white beards on the Yuletide charity circuit, or would Fion be thoughtlessly throwing away the tabloid value of her terrific legs if they didn't come as Dick Whittington and Cat?

Not, of course, that there isn't more to major promotional life than festivals: even if we were, for delicacy's sake, to ignore the immense political clout of — we are led to believe — weddings, honeymoons, pregnancies, first teeth, first waddles, first words, all that, when everything likely to go pear-shaped inevitably will, consider the thousands of days and nights during which the couple will be forced to stroll and simper photographically at untemperament-testing venues, risking a bite from the champion borzoi here, a sliced kick-off and pratfall there, a hard hat two sizes too small, an oilskin too small too big, an unfinished ride on a Saudi camel, a lightning goose from an Italian drunk, an interview with Dame Edna, a spread in *Hellos*, to say nothing, as the hapless William will be compelled to, of all those occasions when people come up to him during meticulously planned PR stunts and begin addressing him in Welsh.

Am I too anxious in their behalf? Perhaps: they have, as I say, made a promising start. It's just that ten years is a long time in politics.

De Klerk helped to bury apartheid, but in the end he lost the trust of both blacks and whites, says R. W. Johnson

## The man South Africans could never quite forgive

The resignation yesterday of F.W. de Klerk as leader of South Africa's National Party brings to an anticlimactic end a political career which changed not just a country but a continent. Despite the graciousness of the tributes now being paid to him by President Mandela and others, there is no doubt that it has been a spectacularly mistimed resignation.

De Klerk would have been best advised to resign straight after the country's first democratic election in April 1994, an event he played such a large role in bringing about. This, however, would have meant accepting that he was purely a figure of transition and that like Gorbachev — a parallel he always resisted — he had no further role once he had brought the edifice of power he had inherited crashing down.

There was little indication that de Klerk would play such a role when he squeaked in (by only nine votes) as National Party leader in February 1989. He had been a conservative leader of the NP's dominant Transvaal section and was credited with having blocked some of President P.W. Botha's reformist reforms, such as the abolition of the Group Areas Act. This made sense when Transvaal was his constituency — but made no sense once he had a national mandate and when the threat of comprehensive sanctions had become so real.

Under enormous foreign pressure, de Klerk confined himself to generalities during the election campaign, promising only the vaguest of reforms. But on February 2, 1990, he opened parliament with a speech in which he calmly announced the dismantling of the entire apartheid system. Everything was to go: the Bantustans, segregated education, group areas, the Land Acts, classification of people by race, detention without trial — even the security police. On top of that, all the bans on organisations such as the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress and the Communist Party were lifted. Their leaders were released from jail, invited back from exile and further invited to negotiate a new constitution to be based on a common citizenship and universal suffrage. It is on this speech that de Klerk's place in history rests. In one fell swoop he brought democracy and peace to his country and he also shot his

opponents' fox, never allowing them to claim the credit for these reforms.

The sheer boldness of this step threw the liberation movement into confusion, leaving de Klerk the serene master of the game. To many blacks he appeared as a South African Lincoln, while whites trusted this calm but smiling figure who seemed to have a master plan. But there lay the rub. De Klerk believed he could persuade the ANC to accept a permanent form of power-sharing, together with a strongly federal system, and he wanted to tie his opponents down to this deal so that it could not easily be revised by the ultimate one-man, one-vote parliament. As white criticism grew, this was the package de Klerk boldly put before the white electorate in the March 1992 referendum in which he won a 69 per cent "yes" vote.

It was de Klerk's high point. Thereafter he steadily lost the initiative to the ANC and one by one had to abandon his bargaining chips. In the end the ANC won its demand for a constituent

assembly, a centralised system and minimal restraints on simple majority rule. The reasons for this still excite acrimonious debate in South Africa. But a central role was played by the Boipatong massacre in which 45 ANC supporters died. The ANC suspended negotiations and launched a period of mass action. The longer this went on the more obvious it became that the ANC was the only force with any capacity to restore order peacefully — and since de Klerk had ruled out the bad old ways of restoring order by other means, this meant the ANC could name its price.

De Klerk reacted poorly to this rapidly changing environment. Like a man who has shot the rapids he quickly found that it was all he could do to keep his canoe afloat amid boiling white water and jagged rocks. Over and over again he had to accept deals and compromises. He made many mistakes. He did not conduct negotiations himself but preferred to travel the world and bask in the international acclaim, leaving an in-

experienced deputy minister in charge of negotiations. This arrogant overconfidence was compounded by an attempt to demand a 75 per cent majority for the all important power of constitutional amendment. The ANC offered 70 per cent but when de Klerk dug in his heels negotiations broke down and he ended up with a mere two thirds. Moreover, he gave way on many points — to the surprise of ANC negotiators who had expected him to bargain more toughly — because he hoped thereby to build a permanent relationship of trust which would guide a long-serving government of national unity in the future. All such hopes were to fail.

Previous NP leaders had all been international pariahs and de Klerk hugely enjoyed the acclaim he received abroad, culminating in the Nobel Peace Prize he shared with Nelson Mandela. Perhaps he enjoyed it too much. He spent a great deal of time abroad and when Mandela refused to go to Washington with him jointly to receive the

Liberty Medal from President Clinton unless de Klerk first agreed the election date, de Klerk agreed the date even though the constitution and even the electoral system had still to be agreed.

De Klerk had hoped the NP would win 30-40 per cent of the vote in 1994 and was pained to receive only 20.4 per cent. For two years he soldiered on as an impotent Deputy President in a coalition government in which the ANC shared little power. Finally, under pressure from an increasingly restive white electorate, he took the NP into opposition once the final draft of the constitution had been approved.

De Klerk insisted he would now see South Africa through to the development of a healthy multi-party system but his heart was clearly not in it. He has cut a poor — sometimes invisible — figure in opposition, has been pilloried before the Truth Commission for the cruelties of apartheid and has come under increasing attack from the Right for having "sold out" the minorities, especially the Afrikaners. The more he has apologised for past sins the less conviction he has carried with his own constituency. But in the ANC's eyes he can never apologise enough.

There is little doubt that his real motive for staying on was to shield himself from the charge — the worst in the Afrikaner lexicon — of having been a false leader. He repeatedly insisted that the transition had achieved what he wanted — and donated his Nobel Prize to the promotion of the Afrikaans language. In the end, however, his attempt to represent his party and the transition was simply incompatible.

He leaves office a sadly diminished figure apparently intent on devoting himself to the lucrative international lecture circuit rather than as Baroness Thatcher has done. The ANC will cease to pillory him now, but many whites will continue to blame him bitterly. In their eyes he has left them at the mercy of a huge crime wave, a corrupt, hegemonic and incompetent Government presiding over an increasingly ungovernable country. To all of which de Klerk makes the unanswerable reply that "We could not go on the way we did before. No matter how difficult things may be now, they would have been far worse had we not made the change we did."



## Hooked on an unworkable law

The Misuse of Drugs Act has divided society and branded half a generation 'criminal'. Now at last there is a chance to think again

I doubt if any law on the statute book has done less good and more harm than the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act. Over its bleak quarter century, a law supposedly protecting ourselves, our children and "society" from harmful products has done the opposite. Their consumption has soared. It has led more young people into prison and a life of crime than any other Act. Distribution of amphetamines, hallucinogens, cannabis, and cocaine and opium derivatives has risen sharply. Half the population under the age of 30 has used or is using illegal drugs.

Here, in other words, is a law that has failed. It is a dud law, an unenforceable law, a counterproductive law, an instance of how bad politicians are at what they claim is their chief job, passing legislation. Yet a dud law on food safety, or dangerous pets, or drunk driving, might be changed. The Misuse of Drugs Act seems impervious to amendment or repeal. It contains a repelling magnet.

To the Tories, the Act was as sacred as the Act of Union. On this subject, they were the irrational in flight from the undebatable. Many hoped that a new Labour Government would prove more open-minded. I would guess that half the present Cabinet privately agrees with Clare Short in wanting to drop some of the Act's "dead letters", such as on cannabis possession. I would even hazard Tony Blair's name on that list. Yet the new Home Office Ministers are as deaf in the wool as the old ones. As heard George Howarth's voice tremble on radio when asked to review the Act. No, he gasped. His colleague Alan Michael protested that even using the phrase royal commission was anathema. It might "send wrong signals" or "be misunderstood".

The result is a startling divide in social policy, between an older generation which believes a social law is far too weak and a younger one which (by two-to-one, according to polls) believes the precise reverse. This is the polarisation that faces the committee set up this week

by the Police Foundation under Viscountess Runciman. Clearly, what politicians are too frightened to discuss, others must discuss for them.

The polarisation is now extreme and growing wider. Few heroin users before the 1971 Act were criminals or social outcasts. Their drug was available on prescription. Heroin addiction is now said to be responsible for 20 per cent of all crime recorded by police. For the first time in history a drug supposedly outlawed to curb its use is addicting an ever-widening circle of young people. Meanwhile, magistrates are locking up otherwise law-abiding sellers of cannabis for seven years. Prisoners now have the highest drug consumption per capita of any occupational group in Britain. The Home Office is unable to stop its prisons becoming the hottest dope houses in the land. Yet it believes it can ban drug use in the outside world.

This is close to madness. On one side of the argument are those who believe that "one more push" under the Misuse of Drugs Act might work. They insist that the list of substances that already damage people's bodies is long enough. All drugs are "hell". The only way the community can condemn that hell is through the criminal law. Traffickers should incur society's most savage punishment. Alcohol and tobacco are integrated into our social habits. Were they not, we would ban them too, and in the case of tobacco we are in the process of doing just that.

These people see their case reinforced by ever more evidence of the enhanced narcotic effects of even "recreational" drugs. Modern chemicals are of unknown effect. Recent research on Ecstasy in America suggests that the damage it does to brain cells may shorten the brain's life. We are possibly producing a

generation of young people prone to early senile dementia. By all means research, educate and practise "harm reduction", say the prohibitionists. But never legitimise.

Two increasingly distinct groups oppose the prohibitionists, one ideological, the other pragmatic. The ideologues share with classical libertarians the view that the State should not interfere with individual liberty except to protect minors or maintain order. They claim it is absurd that adults smoking cannabis, students taking Ecstasy, or rock stars sniffing cocaine need to be protected

from themselves by other adults who dislike these products and can deploy the criminal law against them. Such products are in the same ethical realm as alcohol and nicotine. Narcotics are as old as human society. Prohibition merely legitimises the prejudice of one group and intrudes on the personal freedom of another. In this spirit, the financier George Soros yesterday donated \$15 million to fight America's draconian drugs laws.

The pragmatists are down-to-earth. To them, prohibition simply does not work. It is like using cavalry against tanks. The trumpet blast is noble but the war has passed on. As the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire, Michael O'Byrne, said last week, either Govern-

ment should hurl far more money at crushing drug distribution, or the police must be relieved of this burden. The present law can be enforced only at random, which means ineffectively and corruptly. Every newspaper reader knows how prevalent the drugs distribution business now is in Britain and across the globe. City centres, housing estates, market towns, pubs and clubs are in thrall to this hugely profitable (because unregulated and untaxed) industry. It ranks with the oil industry for global turnover. It has far outstripped all other criminal activity and is believed to finance a quarter of the world's governments and as many of its police forces. The outlawing of narcotics banned by the West probably causes more violence and misery across the world than anything short of war itself.

When the Customs and Excise declared its "best ever" year for drug seizures, it merely announced the best year for drug trading. This is senseless market intervention. I doubt if the Government seizes even 1 per cent of what enters Britain each year. Like the US Navy, which spends \$2 billion trying to "interdict" drug-running in the Caribbean, such operations have a marginal effect on street prices. Indeed, one of the most cogent (if cynical) arguments for maintaining prohibition is that the drugs trade channels money free of tax to communities that legitimate commerce is unlikely to reach — from the poor of Colombia to the Afro-Caribbean distribution networks of South London.

Last week I saw drugs openly sold on the streets of Edinburgh during the festival. Tons of cannabis, Ecstasy and cocaine would have been traded at the Notting Hill Carnival, under the nose of the carousing leader of the Conservative

Party. Nobody can visit council estates in Moss Side, Leeds or Newcastle, where drugs are now the cheapest pastime and most buoyant trade, and regard the Misuse of Drugs Act as operational. Police officers and social workers are the ultimate "redrafters" of bad laws. To them drugs are not as seen by middle-aged and suburban voters, an alien menace to be repelled by the criminal law. They are a fact of everyday life, dangerous because unregulated, cheap because untaxed, corrupting because distributed by unlicensed cartels.

This debate reaches deep into the cultural psyche. The most common and most widely debilitating drug on earth, alcohol, is something Britons believe they have learnt to "handle". Anyone who walks the streets at night, or visits a police cell or casualty ward, knows that this is untrue. Yet we call a bottle of whisky "safe" and a joint of marijuana a potential killer. We have succeeded, with public consent, to control alcohol's ability to turn car drivers into killers. Yet the drugs preferred by the young and many immigrant groups are greeted with an irrational horror.

None of this validates legalisation. It does plead for a review of the Act. The difficulty is that the present coalition of policemen, social and health workers, two thirds of voters under 25, and a myriad others who use, sell or tolerate illicit drugs does not constitute a majority. In a democracy, majorities must be obeyed, however closed their minds.

What is depressing about the present debate is that an industry with an astonishing power to penetrate every aspect of the social economy is still political anathema. Another committee is unlikely to change minds. My hope is that this one at least might start to open them.

The author is a member of the new committee of inquiry

Simon Jenkins

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## Net loss

A DEARTH of salmon in the River Dee has forced the Prince of Wales to forgo his Balmoral fishing trips for the first time since he took up angling as a boy.

Since 1964, the Prince has supported the Dee Salmon Fishery Board's attempts to increase the river's salmon stock, which has been blighted by a combination of industrial fishing of the salmon's food supply and drought. After attending several board meetings, he backed its plans to shorten the

season by a month and — the test of the true sportsman — agreed to throw back his catch.

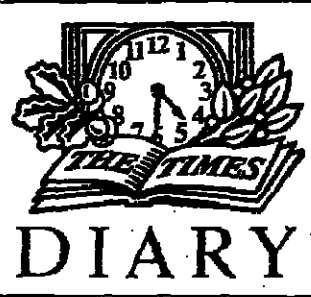
This year, however, the river has been so empty of fish that the Prince has not picked up a rod and has diverted his attention to the grouse-moors, pausing on the banks of the river long enough only to attend an official photocall two weeks ago with his sons, William and Harry.

"He has been put off by the miserable stock this summer," says Colonel Robert Campbell, former chairman of the fishery board. "The spring run was disastrous, and Prince Charles didn't fish in May this year."

So scarce have salmon become across Scotland — the annual catch is down to fewer than 7,000 from more than 100,000 thirty years ago — that the Prince has recently turned to fishing grise in Iceland, which he has visited several times with his friend Nicholas Soames. Fish supplies in the Denmark Straits, however, may soon be as meagre as those in the Dee. "Grise stock off Iceland are at an all-time low," says Campbell. "Soon there won't be much left to catch there either."



Gone fishin': Charles and son



● Beaten to the recent sets of grainy snapshots of Diana and Dodi by the big bucks of other tabloids, the cash-strapped Daily Star has taken to printing even duller pictures of the Princess and abandoning any attempt to pretend they are of the remotest interest to anybody. Monday's picture was below the headline: "Another picture of Diana." Yesterday's was captioned: "Here's a picture of Di sitting on a diving board yesterday. Fascinating."

### House rule

JAMES BROWN, the uncouth former editor of the rubbishy magazine *Loaded*, has made an instant smash at Vogue House, where he has arrived to take the editor's chair at GQ. But the importance of lunch in his strategy has not been

an unqualified success. After a particularly lively lunch "meeting", Brown appears to have taken exception to a bottle of wine he found back in his office and thrown it out of the window. That the window was closed added to the effect.

There then followed another convivial outing with the magazine's publisher, Peter Stuart. Later, the two were hauled upstairs by a senior executive and informed that they were banned from lunching together for six months. After heated negotiation it was agreed that such a demand smacked of separation.

rating naughty schoolboys in the classroom and was an unacceptable way to treat adults. The ban was reduced to a month.

### Racey

THERE is good news on the romantic front for the Duke of Richmond and Gordon. His Grace, who had a rough time three years ago in the wake of revelations of his hot-blooded affair with a travel agent, is celebrating the engagement of Louise, his youngest daughter, Louise, 30, is to marry Benjamin Collings, 23, who restores and races vintage cars.

They met two years ago at the Goodwood Festival of Speed. Racing of one kind or another has gone hand in hand with romance throughout the history of the Richmond dynasty, even before the family owned Goodwood. The 1st Duke was conceived between races at Newmarket when Charles II, an assiduous student of the female form, took a tumble with Louise de Keroualle, a lady-in-waiting to his sister Henrietta.

### Outcasts

Britain's oldest annual music event, the Three Choirs Festival in Hereford, ended on a discordant

note. At the end of the three-day festival its organiser, one Elizabeth Pooley, found herself barred from the last night party by an overzealous doorman.

Rolling up at the Festival Club, in Hereford Shire Hall, with her husband, she was refused entry because she did not have a ticket. She explained who she was but the meat-head on the door still said no. He had his orders, no one could come in without a ticket. Friends and fellow organisers spotted Mrs Pooley and pleaded with the bouncer, but he was having none of it and the couple stayed in the rain until giving up and heading home.

### No kidding?

WHILE Diana, Princess of Wales, is sunning herself on her fourth cruise in five weeks, her mother, Frances Shand Kydd, has been immersing herself in the mire of Scottish politics. After pondering long on the devolution debate she is burning with patriotism that Robert the Bruce would have been proud of.

Frances Shand Kydd, who caused a stir at the general election when she said she would not be voting Conservative because of John Major's treatment of Scottish fishermen, is busily urging everyone eligible to vote in the referendum. "I have



All Scots: Mrs Shand Kydd

made up my mind how I am going to vote, but I am not disclosing it," she says from her home on the Isle of Seil. "It is about a question of balance — balancing people's aspirations with the prospect of levying additional taxation. I love Scotland. It is my home and the most wonderful place in the world with the greatest people. I have got no English blood in me, despite what some people think."

P.H.S.



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## THE NEXT MRS ROBINSON

Ireland needs political reform and a modern President

For a state taking its place among Europe's first rank it has been an uncomfortable exorcism. The most important living Irish political figure has been revealed as a corrupt and mendacious hypocrite bought by a wealthy shopkeeper. One of the most charismatic of his opponents has been exposed as a kept man "consistently benefiting from the black economy". The report of the McCracken Tribunal into the activities of former Fianna Fail leader Charles Haughey and the disgraced Fine Gael minister Michael Lowry paints a pitilessly depressing picture of corruption at the highest level in the Irish Republic.

In British terms, it is as though Margaret Thatcher and Denis Healey were revealed to have enriched themselves in office as the puppet hirelings of Lord Siff of Brimpton and then took care to hide their benefactor's generosity from the Revenue. Ireland can console itself that it has a judiciary capable of slicing through politicians' prevarication to uncover the corruption beneath; but vital as Mr Justice McCracken's work has been, the stables are not yet cleansed.

In comparison with sleaze on the eastern side of the Irish Sea, whether in Tatton or Paisley, the scale of wrongdoing is breathtaking. Charles Haughey's enormous wealth, his Georgian mansion, his island hideaway accessible only by helicopter, his racehorses and cellar were not the fruits of honest labour on the path to the Taoiseach's office but the spoils of a clandestine relationship with the supermarket owner Ben Dunne. When Mr Haughey was challenged about the £1.3 million he received covertly from Mr Dunne he lied repeatedly, on oath, until his fictions were shattered by solid detective work. Mr Lowry may have received less financially but the sums the Fine Gael minister accepted were nevertheless compromising and, worse, led him to

"cynically evade" his responsibilities to the Revenue Commissioners. Both men will now have to settle their accounts with the Irish people and make proper recompense for their wrongdoing; but the consequences of their actions require more than a personal confession.

As the leader of the Irish Labour Party, Dick Spring, has pointed out, the level of corruption exposed proves how sorely the state's political system requires reform. Mr Spring's party has proposed constitutional changes to make government more open which could be put to the Irish people this autumn at the same time as the presidential election. That election will, in any case, be a test for the Republic. If John Hume does not stand, and for the sake of the Northern Ireland peace process he should not, then the most likely victor looks to be Albert Reynolds. A victory for Mr Reynolds would be a backward step for Ireland.

Mr Reynolds's aggressive nationalism is reason enough for concern but his faults are not just ideological. The circumstances of Mr Reynolds's fall from office in 1994, when he lost the confidence of his Labour coalition partners, still sour Irish politics. The beef export scandals of the late 1980s and early 1990s are likely to come under renewed scrutiny this autumn. There are other questions which will be raised if he runs.

The ghosts of the past have always stalked Irish politics: it was a scandal thought long buried which did for the last Fianna Fail presidential candidate, Brian Lenihan. His loss was Ireland's gain. The victor in that race, Mary Robinson, was the standard-bearer for a more modern and open Ireland. If the benefits she has brought to Irish political culture are to be built on, including a sympathetic understanding of Unionist concerns, then a figure to match her must be found. None has yet appeared.

## WHITEHALL RUMBLING

Political plasticine and Caribbean craters

The freshly constituted Whitehall committee on Montserrat has met and has reported to Robin Cook. The Foreign Secretary has told the waiting world that he and the Cabinet "fully support the plan put together by my colleague Clare Short to ensure that the people of Montserrat have choices". All that remains is to finalise "an implementation strategy", and "Clare and I will continue to work with the new chief minister... in this difficult and changing situation".

This is next to meaningless. Were there a coherent plan ready to be implemented, damage limitation would not have been needed. How does the Government propose to "continue to work" with David Brandt, Montserrat's new Chief Minister, when relations are in tatters and when his demands for better treatment by Britain are echoing across the Caribbean? There is apparently to be no new offer, no added security for people who have lost everything, only a reordering of "priorities" — and a "listening visit" by a junior minister, George Foulkes, which in the absence of a rethink will merely waste aviation fuel.

Mr Cook has now departed on a trip to Asia, presumably confident that a bit of news management will satisfy the British public that all was really under control all along — or at least hopeful that bromides will suffice to buy the Government, if not the islanders, time for public concern to subside. The Foreign Secretary's political antennae are not normally so insensitive.

Mr Cook's statement recalls John Major at his most ineffective, in the moments when he allowed misplaced loyalty to errant colleagues to warp his political judgment. If this committee had any purpose, it was surely to rescue Britain's reputation for competent and fair dealing, rather than that

of a rattled minister whose mishandling of Montserrat's agony has needlessly complicated a perfectly compassable humanitarian emergency. The recocking of half-baked remedies will solve nothing.

To continue to insist on Ms Short's leading role in this matter is the more perverse because, regardless of her performance, this should never have been a matter for her department. Montserrat should not come under the umbrella of International Development. Britain has a choice about which foreign countries it assists, but an ineluctable duty to its dependent territories. Their problems are a domestic matter, their crises more appropriately dealt with under the contingency reserves than under the straitened aid budget. Ms Short may well agonise that money for Montserrat means less for desperately poor Africans; she should not have been required to weigh apples against oranges. No wonder policy has been reactive, inept and confused.

Vulcanology is, at best, a balance of probabilities. For Montserrat itself, the Government cannot be certain what the future holds. If Soufriere returns to its long sleep, areas now uninhabitable could be fertile again in a few years. If it does not, the island may never be economically viable. It is therefore reasonable to put long-term plans for Montserrat on hold. What is not reasonable is to give the islanders such meagre assistance to settle, temporarily or permanently, on neighbouring islands that their only realistic hope of financial security is to come to Britain. Although the Government was lamentably slow to set up this committee, there is nothing wrong with its agenda. But it cannot function properly until ministers stop pretending that their only problem is public relations.

## MARTYR TO THE MARKET

The strange metamorphosis of Che Guevara

The year's most bizarre CD is an album called *Hasta Siempre Comandante*, on which Fidel Castro reads the last letters of his erstwhile comrade-in-revolution, Ernesto "Che" Guevara. To be released in October by the British company, Tumi Music, the album marks the 30th anniversary of the 39-year-old Guevara's execution by Bolivian soldiers. It is not too hard to see why Cuba's President agreed to the project: Guevara's letters — written to him in 1965, after the charismatic Argentinean had left Cuba to spread the revolution through South America — are nothing if not fawning.

"My only serious failing," Guevara writes, "was not having had more confidence in you... seldom has a statesman been more brilliant." And so on, somewhat cloyingly, until Guevara signs off with a typically melodramatic "*Hasta la victoria siempre! Patria o muerte!*" (Onward to victory! Homeland or death!) and hastens on to the martyrdom he craved.

Students of ripe irony will find plenty to savour. The Castro who fervently declaims Guevara's zealous Marxist epistles is now, according to *Forbes* magazine, one of the world's richest men, worth an estimated \$13 million. The revolution has turned out nicely for him, if not for many of his countrymen. But then, Guevara's ghost is a nice little money-spinner too. The global Guevara cult was nurtured by hagiographic posters in a million student lodgings in the late Sixties, reinforced by dozens of appear-

ances by Guevara figures in books, films and even musicals; who can forget the all-singing Che in *Evita*?

It still flourishes in a world that has largely consigned Guevara's Utopian communism to the dustbin. This anniversary year has already seen a big new biography and an album of songs inspired by Guevara and endorsed by his daughter. But the most determined efforts to exploit Guevara's name have come since the grim discovery last month of what are probably his remains, a corpse with no hands, in southern Bolivia. Castro, who is reputed to have the hands preserved in a jar in his office, has already claimed the rest of Guevara's bones, to be housed in a grandiose mausoleum in Cuba, a lurid new attraction for tourists.

Meanwhile, Bolivia — the very state which Guevara was trying to bring down when he was killed — has announced that it is opening a 500-mile "Che Trail", along which admirers can retrace the guerrilla's battles. The scheme has nothing to do with reconciliation and everything to do with the tourist trade. The man who set out to bury capitalism is now metamorphosed into a chic designer label that will sell almost anything. The revolutionary and his ludicrous message are long dead, but the icon lives on, courtesy of the very consumerism that he so detested. In Guevara's case, history is being replayed not as farce, but as marketing. Buy your souvenir beret now,

## Human rights and judges' powers

From Mr Andrew Puddephatt, Director of Charters

Sir, Geoffrey Marshall, Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford (letter, August 18), glosses over some of the real difficulties in allowing courts to invalidate laws that judges believe are inconsistent with a Bill of Rights. The Government's proposal to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into UK law changes the relationship between Parliament and the courts. It is important, therefore, to consider which method of protecting rights is most appropriate in our democracy.

This is not a question of adopting the New Zealand, or Canadian, or Swedish model; we need a "British" model, which makes the most effective use of our political system.

Some elements of a Bill of Rights are uncontroversial. Others such as the right to freedom of expression or the right to privacy, involve delicate political and moral judgments. Indeed, many of the most difficult problems facing our society involve a conflict of rights rather than the simple expression of a single right.

If we take Geoffrey Marshall's view, such conflicts must, by virtue of "common sense", be decided by judges. In the absence of any sustained public debate it is far from clear that public opinion is ready for judges, who by their very nature must be unaccountable, to make such important, often moral decisions.

Judges would be required to take highly political decisions where there is no clear "human rights" view — considering, for example, whether the ban on tobacco advertising contravenes the right to freedom of expression or whether proposals to establish a sex-offenders register breach a constitutional right to privacy. Such changes to their role could lead to inexorable political pressures on the judiciary, with every judgment and even their appointment the subject of intense lobbying.

Geoffrey Marshall might recall that in the case of the New Zealand Bill of Rights, which he dismisses so readily, Parliament's original intention was to allow courts to strike down laws which were in breach of the Bill. However, during the consultation process public opinion proved itself to be fiercely opposed to judges being given such a power — and this led to their current model being adopted.

I would suggest that before we give judges such power we consult more widely to assess public opinion in this country.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW PUDDEPHATT,  
Director,  
Charter88,  
Exmouth House, 3-11 Pine Street, EC1,  
August 23.

From Professor Emeritus T. F. Daveney

Sir, Geoffrey Marshall is less than just to the New Zealand model of human rights legislation. Many, perhaps most, of the claims submitted to Strasbourg are founded on the principle of equality, eg. the age of consent for homosexual practices vis-à-vis heterosexual activity; females in the fighting arms of the Forces; equality of access to shops and public transport by the disabled, etc.

Many of these demands are, in our culture, considered justified and reasonable. But it is easy to think of endless equality claims which would be dismissed as unreasonable, or even absurd, eg. equality of housing, income, pensions, holidays. This clearly indicates that the principle of equality, so far from being a final justification for a judgment, is merely the beginning of the debate.

What criteria, then, are evoked to judge the reasonableness of a claim for equality? The answer is obvious: cultural values. But whose? The New Zealanders, ever shrewd, say "Ours, based on Common Law, shared history, and a strong sense of community". And that should be our answer.

Would Strasbourg know better? Have they privileged access to a Platonic world of eternal values? The Government would do well to include an analytical philosopher in their human rights committee.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM DAVENEY,  
4 Ferry Road,  
Topsam, Exeter, Devon,  
August 18.

## Hindley's picture

From Miss Claire Louise Watson

Sir, Jerome Gardner (letters, August 21; see also letter, August 25) is right to remind us that the elevation of Myra Hindley's photo to a portrait (article, August 18) is against the wishes of the Moors victims' families. Bearing in mind these victims, however, does Mr Gardner not think that the use of "a scary police mug shot" is in fact justifiable and hardly an infringement of Myra Hindley's human rights?

The Royal Academy should ban the portrait because there is nothing artistic about the police mug shot of a murderer, not in deference to the "helpless situation" of Myra Hindley.

Yours faithfully,  
CLAIRE WATSON,  
Boite 53,  
10 Rue du Moulin de la Vierge,  
75014 Paris,  
August 25.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### A little wildness is a lovesome thing

From the Chairman of the Society of Garden Designers

Sir, May I add to Michael Hornsby's comments on the trend towards less formal gardening ("Shaggy look is cutting edge of fashion", August 21).

What the conservationist is trying to suggest to the horticulturalist is that there might be a middle way in gardening. With a diminishing wild landscape there must be a method of land management which is not the restrictive horticultural practice that we have inherited from the Edwardian era; and need the criteria of a garden be the number of exotic plants which we can cram into it anyway?

Our native trees, shrubs and wild flowers are magnificent, and used selectively, with appropriate introduced species, can combine to grow in

a much looser way than in the cultivated border to provide both colour and form as well as a natural habitat.

This approach, I would like to suggest, is more important than the "fashion" suggested by your title. Our land and our landscape should not be trivialised in this way.

Wild plants cannot be allowed to develop at random, however, particularly in the limited space of a small garden. Underlying the planting has to be a design concept to make the garden work both physically as well as visually for the people who use it.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BROOKES, Chairman,  
Society of Garden Designers,  
Clock House, Denmans,  
Fontwell, nr Arundel, West Sussex,  
August 21.

### Around London by Tube and train

From Mr Nicholas Albery

Sir, As someone who lived for six years near Kilburn without realising I could go direct by train to Kew Gardens, I was very struck by the new map of London's passenger rail network, both trains and Tubes (report, August 18).

How badly advertised London's mainline and suburban trains are. Surely the simplest and cheapest first steps towards upgrading public transport for the region would be:

To publicise a name, such as London Passenger Rail Network, bringing Tubes and trains together.

To give map colours (the single most important factor) to all the participating rail lines.

To display the resulting maps of the network's trains and Tubes on Tube trains and at Tube stations.

To increase train frequencies to Tube frequencies as train passenger numbers increase.

There are signs of this happening in embryonic ways already, but it needs systematic development into a seamless network. It could be financed in part by London Underground charging those companies wishing to participate for the advertising facilities.

NICHOLAS ALBERY (Chairman),  
The Institute for Social Inventions,  
20 Heber Road, NW2,  
August 18.

### Teenage pregnancy

From Mr Ian C. Boulton

Sir, I take issue with Mrs Victoria Gillick's assertion (letter, August 20) that "ten years of 'safe-sex' education, and a doubling of the use of contraceptives by adolescents... has only succeeded in sexualising younger and younger children". While the largely mythical innocence of youth may be somewhat curtailed by "safe-sex" education, I suggest that this is a minute price to pay for the continued health and safety of our children.

Awareness of HIV and Aids is essential for all sections of the population irrespective of sex, sexuality or age.

Yours sincerely,  
IAN C. BOULTON,  
Department of Biochemistry  
and Molecular Biology,  
Guys and St Thomas' Hospital,  
London, SE1 9RT.  
i.boulton@umds.ac.uk

From the Director of Family and Youth Concern

Sir, The underlying assumption in the letters (August 14) seems to be that

### Head lice

From Dr Robert Aston

Sir, I am intrigued by the suggestion that head lice might be causing panic in the House of Commons (article, Weekend, August 2 letters, August 8), since they are spread by intimate, prolonged, still, head-to-head contact.

Head-lice infection in this country has no physical health implications other than an itchy scalp, but the associated disgust and stigma cause disproportionate reactions.

One of your correspondents, Dr Honor Merriman, recommends the physical removal of lice by the "bug busting" method — wet combing with a nit comb. This has not been shown to be effective in the control of the problem in communities by any authoritative research.

Whilst I support another correspondent in not wanting to see the school health service reduced, reinventing the "nit nurse" would do nothing to reduce the prevalence of lice and would waste the time and skills of the school nurses. Head lice can only be

controlled if the community as a whole accepts responsibility and takes concerted appropriate action.

The only demonstrably effective way of controlling head lice in the community is diagnosis by detection-combing, followed by adequate chemical treatment of confirmed cases, and of close contacts if infected. Treatment should not be given unless a living, moving louse is found.

In each health authority, the responsible officer for the control of infectious diseases is the consultant in communicable disease control (CCDC). The national professional organisation of CCDCs will shortly be producing a statement on head lice and their control. I suggest that all those who have a professional interest in the subject seek advice from their local CCDC.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT ASTON  
(Member, Head Lice Working Group of the Public Health Medicine Environmental Health Group),  
Stoneycare,  
Foxholes Road, Horwich, Lancashire.

From Mrs M. Alison Joiner

Sir, If A-level standards have not fallen, why do I find myself able to teach so much of the present A-level physics syllabus from old O-level textbooks?

Yours faithfully,  
M. ALISON JOINER,  
15 Dale Avenue,  
Wheatthorpe, Hertfordshire,  
August 14.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

## Waste charge over new Army college

From Brigadier P. E. Collins (retd)

Sir, The Defence Minister can save the best part of £500 million by insisting on putting to proper use the now empty Army Staff College with all its infrastructure, lecture halls, married quarters and sporting facilities (all in an existing secure environment) as the Joint Services Staff College instead of covering a new greenfield site in Swindon with concrete.

One of the reasons given for not using this historic building, which is of international military reputation, is that it would supposedly damage the panelling to install the necessary computer equipment in the lecture rooms. This has to be challenged. With fibre-optic cable and the present state-of-the-art in corporate networks, every lavatory and every married quarter, as well as all the lecture rooms, could be discreetly equipped with computer terminals for a tiny fraction of the cost of a new building.

Yours sincerely,  
PETER COLLINS,  
The Maultway, Camberley, Surrey,  
August 24.

### Cover slips

From the Reverend William Greatrex

Sir, Now that women cricketers have recognised that efficiency takes priority over "appearance" (report, August 10), is it not time for those who authorise working dress for female nurses, police, and members of the defence forces to exercise similar common sense?

Trousers offer maximum efficiency in carrying out the duties involved in these public services. Skirts could, of course, be retained for ceremonial occasions.

Yours truly,  
WARREN GREATREX,  
The Highlands, Great Ormond,  
Symonds Yat, Herefordshire,  
August 16.

### A natural streak

From Mr Jad Adams

Sir, It may well be true, as Dr Strutt writes (August 20), that Waardenburg's syndrome can account for white streaks of hair occurring spontaneously.

It would not be accurate to conclude, however, that Indira Gandhi's characteristic white streak is thus explained. Her black hair began to go grey when she was in her 40s. She dyed most of it back to its previous colour, leaving a central streak of hair in its natural state which was first grey, then white.

Yours faithfully,  
JAD ADAMS  
(Joint author, *The Dynasty: The Nehru-Gandhi Story*, Penguin, 1997),  
2 Kings Garth,  
29 London Road, SE23,  
August 20.

### Small change

From Mr T. G. Barker

Sir, My wife and I recently drove to Venice on holiday. Our money wallet is still bursting at the seams with loose change for the franc (all three varieties — French, Belgian and Luxembourg), the mark, the Austrian schilling and the Italian lira.

Roll on the single currency!  
Yours faithfully,  
T. G. BARKER,  
116 Shinfield Road,  
Reading, Berkshire.

### Total confusion

From Richard Raven

Sir, I know I have been on my school holiday for six weeks, but I am sure I still know how to add up. I wasn't convinced, however, when I read the preliminary medals table of The World Sports Olympiad, where the world's most powerful minds compete (Keene on Chess, August 22). I found that England's 3 plus 5 plus 5 equalled 11. I was sure it equalled 13. Maybe I am wrong?

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD RAVEN  
(Age 13 — or maybe 11. I'm not sure),  
6 Seymour Road,  
East Molesey, Surrey,  
August 22.

### Really, really...

From Mr Henry Fleming

Sir, Browsing through my copy of the Honiton Community Education Programme for 1997-98, and wondering whether at 67 years I am too old for courses such as "Welding for Beginners" or "The Foundation in Shiatsu", I found the answer.

There it was, staring me in the face. A "Spice Girls Study Course", to explore their image, lyrics and profundity, with the benefit of a certificate on successful completion.

My teenager daughter thinks not, and suggests the "Honiton Lace-making Course" as an alternative, but I remain to be convinced.

Yours faithfully,  
HENRY FLEMING,  
April Cottage, Bramble Hill,  
Exeter Road, Honiton, Devon,  
August 24.







ED.  
GEORGE WILLIAM BELI



News reports are called 'stories' for good reason

## TV is a medium where every edit is a lie

Once upon a time... But that's not how you ought to begin a report of a cultural-industrial conference, is it? Oh, yes it is. One word dominated this year's Edinburgh International Television Festival. Wherever you stuck your head, the word "narrative" floated forth. Television, it seems, is a matter of telling stories and of imposing on the most abstruse subject a beginning, a middle and an end.

"It's easier to sustain an unfolding narrative over 30 minutes than 30," said Stephen Lambert, editor of BBC's *Modern Times*. Charles Fumeaux, Channel 4's deputy commissioning editor (documentaries), talked of the importance of selecting the dramatically revealing moment from the subject at hand. John Lynch, editor of BBC's *Horizon*, described the award-winning programme's approach: "We don't do white-coated interviews with rows of bookshelves behind. We tell stories."

There were more of the same, all emerging without apparent collusion. Steve Boulton of Granada described his *World in Action* as "narrative analysis". Steve Hewlett, of the BBC's *Panorama*, said: "The way you tell them is at least as important as what you tell them." And from the very top, in the Worldview Address by Bob Phillips, deputy director-general of the BBC, the universal truth: "People want to be caught up in a narrative... and do not want to be asked to vote on how the story turns out."

Sounds easy enough, if a bit infantilising. But it is not. Narrative in non-fiction programmes takes television producers deep into the moral maze. How tempted are they to bend the truth to fit the story? And how tempted are ordinary mortals to play up for television? In fly-on-the-wall documentaries the blazing row blazes up much hotter when the camera is there.

Saturday's session (called "15 Minutes of Shame") — about television desperadoes, people who will do anything to get on television — turned into one of those breath-stopping, career-endangering moments that make the annual late August trek to the grumpy festival worth it. A bald Cockney-accented creature called (so he said) David Smith told how he had twice hoaxed the BBC's morning *Kilroy* show by having an outrageously dramatic story to tell. Explaining the floppy looks he was wearing while grimacing and groaning through his supposed experiences for a sympathetic-looking *Kilroy*, he said proudly: "That was wigs from the BBC make-up department."

Dave added: "I said 'I'm a born-again Christian — you got to protect my identity.' He urged others to become television

hoaxers like himself, explaining, from his now-extensive knowledge of the life of television researchers: "They're working under pressure. You offer a good story, and play hard to get. They'll say 'Dave, Dave. You've got to come on my programme!'"

But Dave's confession was not the show-stopping moment. That came when the young television professionals on the panel allowed that, yes, it was true that under pressure some of the guests on a programme may not be authentic, but what was more important was that "there was emotional truth there". David was "a fab booking". Besides, his *Kilroy* hoax was a victimless crime. Indeed, you could say "television is a medium where every edit is a lie".

Idealists in the audience then shrieked. This was outright lying! It was a violation of the basic pact that journalism has with the public.

Why was I, a believer in accuracy so far as humanly possible, not more offended? Because I was not surprised. All narrative, as far as I can see, is a lie. Imposing a beginning, middle and end on the chaos and cruelty of events that have no beginning, middle or end is always a distortion of reality. In conversation, in biography, in history. Any quotation is false because it is a sentence or two taken out of context. Every essay tries to mislead, by assembling arguments in such a way as to emphasise one point and obscure others. And news stories are called "stories" for good reason. If they are not made interesting, no one will read or listen.

I was far more shocked by the admission in the festival session on science programmes that a scientist shown making a phone call in a clip from a Channel 4 science documentary was not really making the call but merely re-enacting for the camera one he had made earlier.

Television does have a far tougher time than the print media because it has to hold its audience from minute to minute. Newspapers and magazines are put together in the knowledge that people will skip over what doesn't interest them and find what does. Explaining foreign news and scientific developments on TV must be the hardest kind of journalism there is. The BBC's world editor, John Simpson, a man who does it very well, mentioned how American networks left the Croats out of the messy Bosnian war story. The assumption was that the American public could not grasp a conflict that had more than two sides.

So let's mute the enthusiasm for "a good story". Narrative is all very well. But nobody should pretend that it does not carry a price.



BRENDA MADDOX

# Mean Street revisited



Stan Ogden was a serial adulterer and occasionally beat his wife, Hilda



The Battersbys are the thieving, ghetto-blower-owning neighbours from hell

## The Battersbys are merely the Ogdens of the Nineties, argues Carol Midgley

In a recent poll for ITV's *Teletext*, 97 per cent of *Coronation Street* viewers said the new Battersby family should be written out. The fact that 15,250 people bothered to respond to the survey shows the depth of traditional *Street* viewers' loathing for the thieving, ghetto-blower-owning neighbours from hell and their delinquent teenage daughters.

Brian Park, the producer who arrived in January and went through the cast list like a dose of salts, has received sacks of hate mail about his moves to modernise one of our national treasures. Gritty realism is all very well, they say, but *Coronation Street* is meant to be a television oasis of old-fashioned charm in a grim world of adultery, crime and teenage pregnancy. Thousands of viewers have deserted — at a residential home in Blackpool, pensioners have boycotted the show, calling for an end to Les and Janice Battersby and a return to more genteel storylines.

The Broadcasting Standards Commission is also investigating complaints about violence over a recent scene in which Les Battersby head-butted Curly Watts.

Is it hard to conceive then that, 33 years ago, the same argument was raging over *Coronation Street*? Tim Aspinall, the new producer, had arrived with a mission to bring in new characters who would inject "realism" into the show. Martha Longhurst was killed off. There was national uproar.

At the Edinburgh International Television Festival, Park and his team defended the Battersbys, saying they were little different from the Ogdens, the original troublesome family, in the Sixties. Many viewers, he said, had "selective memories" about the *Street* of yesteryear and may have romanticised characters.

Stan Ogden, after all, was a serial adulterer, violent brawler and occasional wife-beater. Yet he is fondly remembered today as the lazy yet loveable window cleaner nagged by his wife and whose only vice was spending too much time in the Rovers Return.

Park showed clips from 1966, in which Hilda cheerfully admits her husband hits her: "If I had a pound for every time Stan's given me crack, I'd be rich." Later, in a line Park said would never be allowed today, she adds: "But it's harmless enough. If you love them, you put up with it, don't you?"

Further footage showed Ogden hitting his grown-up daughter and getting in a violent brawl with Len Fairclough. And let us not forget that the Ogdens' son Trevor was a compulsive thief — when the neighbours were evacuated during a bomb scare, he went from house to house stealing valuables.

Today's scriptwriters say the Battersbys, based on a real-life family who once terrorised a Leicester council estate, were essential to shake the *Street* out of its inertia. Ann

McManus, a script editor, said: "We had become bland in our storytelling. There was so little dramatic conflict, and the ratings declined because of it."

When they introduced the extra-marital affair between garage machanic Kevin Webster and Natalie Horrocks, ratings soared to more than 15 million, taking it ahead of *EastEnders* for some episodes. Although thousands of older viewers have gone, the new storylines seem to have attracted a younger audience.

"It was a cosy atmosphere that pervaded," said Park. "From time to time there is an urge to react against the complacency and go looking for something new."

In 1968, when the audience was protesting at changes, Michael Cox, the outgoing producer, made similar remarks. "We cannot keep the series

going much longer without a totally new element," he told the *Sunday Mirror*. "We're desperate to find storylines we haven't used before [otherwise] the *Street* would degenerate into... a museum."

But even then, he knew change was almost impossible. "Every producer is full of good intentions about restoring some rough, tough realism," he said. "But within three months you find yourself disarmed and sucked in by the cosy atmosphere. Look at the Ogdens."

Sally Wainwright, a scriptwriter, said that the family will expand to include a 19-year-old son who will arrive at Christmas straight from a young offenders' institution. "Les is nasty, potentially dangerous," she said. "I don't want the family to become too palatable. But one day they might be as loved as the Ogdens were."

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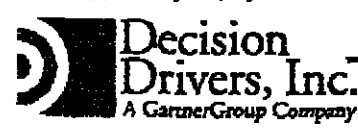
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# Searching for lost youth

Programme makers are desperate to close a television generation gap, says Rajan Datar

William Hague's fiancée caught sampling a Cool Johnny! The news from Notting Hill over the Bank Holiday must have sent stressed picture editors into paroxysms of delight. Sadly the Cool Johnny in question turned out to be a national favourite Carnival cocktail, but the bizarre presence of the Party and his girlfriend among legions of dance-crazed revellers was certainly a publicity coup for the Tories.

Hague's "spontaneous" decision trumped the absent Labour trendies in the cool stakes. Maybe the Labour lot were huffing it up in Edinburgh, where the Television Festival seemed to share a similar obsession with pandering to the youth vote — and about time too. This was a year of change for the TV festival, a deliberate attempt to shift the focus away from the cosy, corporate seediness of hotel lobbies.

From the moment this year's chairman, Stuart Cosgrove, was named, he was lambasting the establishment up since his days at *New Musical Express* and as Channel 4's Controller of Arts Entertainment has been demonised by the tabloids as a purveyor of porn — got up to introduce the MacTaggart Lecture, you sensed a fresh breeze running through the proceedings. Soul-boy casual and with a desert-dry sense of humour, Cosgrove was clearly intent on injecting an element of subversion into the festival; it was time, he argued, to give the festival back to the programme makers on the ground.

Don't get me wrong, I've been up there with the best of them, popping up the bar in the TV exec's haven that is the George Hotel, but this time there was a clear awareness of the need to address a new generation of younger viewers and programme makers. One delegate even suggested shifting the event to Ibiza, where the hotels are cheaper, the flights cost the same, and the atmosphere is far less stuffy. These are critical times for the television industry. The



Programmers are anxious to find a worthy successor to *This Life*, an unquestionable hit for the BBC this summer

fragmentation of both the medium and the market have spelt the end of an era and the scramble is now on to capture the spirit of a new age of TV watching. Thousands of independent production companies compete to make programmes and a proliferation of channels offers more choice to a new generation of avid button-flickers. Niche-TV has become the buzzword and now it seems only footballers and kiss-and-tell princesses can get us all watching.

News and current affairs people are conducting numerous studies into attracting younger audiences, and every scheduler is desperate to discover the next *This Life*. The BBC managed to run an extended plug for the new Oasis album the day before it was released by calling it a documentary *In Their Own Words* and its new 24-hour news network is currently looking for a popular culture correspondent.

In Edinburgh there was a worthwhile forum on the "Lost Generation" and indeed a whole chunk of the festival was devoted to giving young outsiders an insight and a say about contemporary TV. Some 150 aspiring professionals keen to work in television had their own special sponsored seminars with the likes of the makers of *Brookside*.

There is a real paradox here. A recent survey showed that Media Studies has become the most popular degree course in the country. Young people want to be in telly and on telly, but they don't seem to watch it very much. Meanwhile, jobs are as scarce as ever and there are still woefully few accredited training courses.

One session at the festival lambasted the way broadcast-ers like Channel 5 squeeze budgets so much that impoverished independent production companies now inevitably rely on exploiting young and willing labour in order to survive. At the same time, if this year's MacTaggart lecturers, Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, have their way and the BBC goes into subscription, the chances are

many young people may opt out of BBC viewing altogether. Perhaps the strongest indictment of the generational gap that still exists in television is our cynicism about using everyday language in programmes. One session in the new Fringe TV festival strand over the weekend discussed swearing on the box and it was clearly the most charged debate I attended.

One panelist referred to a laughable unwritten BBC rule of no more than five F-words an hour (as I am not allowed to use the word in this newspaper I'll follow the artful technique of the writers of *Father Ted* and call it "fack" instead). After the novelty of watching 100 middle-class professionals turning their tongues around some of the most colourful of English words wore off, my mind turned to the issue of power.

Fack, after all, refers to the exhilarating act of making love and it's also a fantastic-sounding word. Why it's so censored I'll never understand. And what of words like "nigger" and "Paki"?

One (black) commissioning editor made the forceful point that while liberal guilt has far greater problems with using this kind of terminology than swear words and it was this taboo that allowed racist language to retain any force in our society. Another delegate argued that gay people have appropriated "queer" and hence the word had stopped being demeaning. The same applies to "nigger" among younger African-Americans. Indeed, I know Asians in this country who call each other



Father Ted actors have the knack of making swearwords seem almost charming

## Taking schools to task

Sitting at his desk at *The Daily Telegraph* in August six years ago, with his postbag empty and his news editors hungry for stories during the annual silly season, education editor John Clare started doodling with the A-level results from independent schools — and initiated a revolution in the reporting of education in national newspapers.

As he became increasingly fascinated by what they showed of schools' performances — how Winchester compared with St Paul's or South Hampstead High with Wycombe Abbey — he invented an A-level league table of the top 100 independent schools. The idea was a journalistic masterstroke and instantly controversial. There were winners and losers — and if the main motive for going independent is to ensure the A-level grades that will get sons and daughters to university, the table enabled parents to know if they had spent their money wisely.

Newspaper A-level and GCSE league tables are now studied as closely by school governors as by head teachers and parents. Governors and parents are rating head teachers who are rating their subject teachers. Head teachers know that careers are at stake. Peter Wilkes, Headmaster of Cheltenham, was forced to resign last year by governors who claimed the school was sliding down the A-level table — it has just scored its best ever performance.

One had only to read the papers on Saturday to understand why the elation of some head teachers is matched by

**PAPER ROUND**  
Brian MacArthur

the gloom of others. In over-the-top language, more worthy of *Top of the Pops* or football's Premiership, *The Daily Telegraph* said that Harrow, Oakham, Oundle and Stowe were schools that had "steadily lost position", and St Alban's Girls High and Bradford Grammar had been "on a long slide". So it is important to know what is being measured. Clare bases his table on the proportion of A-level entries achieving A and B grades, but omits schools entering 25-44 candidates from his premier league and four divisions. His table put Haberdashers' Aske's Boys as the top independent school followed by St Paul's Girls and Winton Girls High in Manchester — but put Badminton, which merited fourth place in the premier league (as it was in the *Daily Mail*) into an also-ran column because it was too small.

Yet the top school in *The Times*'s table was Winton, with Haberdashers' Aske's 5th and the top school in *The Guardian* and *The Independent* was Winchester, with Haberdashers' 3rd, With-

ington's 71 girls scored an average of 9.04 compared with the 8.94 of Winchester's boys.

O'Leary was both damned and applauded in yesterday's letters to the editor. Philip Couzens, director of studies at Oundle, 186th in *The Times*, 95th in the *Telegraph*, which encourages a fourth AS level to broaden education, said its score would have been higher if it had stuck to three A levels only. "We are forced to think very carefully about whether we can continue our idiosyncratic approach."

Yet Stewart Francis, headmaster of Colchester Royal Grammar School which improved its position, thought the new *Times* table was fairer. "I would be happier to see a pupil achieve excellence by gaining three A grades in three subjects (30 points, an average of 10 points per subject entry) than near excellence by achieving B grades in four (32 points, an average of 8). The latter score would be of more value in your previous system, the former in your new one."

*The Times* and *Daily Telegraph* tables have become powerful influences on school choices, certainly in the independent sector, and almost certainly — and perhaps dangerously — on the content of the sixth form curriculum. They are so popular with readers, however, that whatever their critics say they are now a permanent fixture in the education calendar. Independent schools sell themselves to parents and league tables offer them critical information.

### THE McLISTENER

THE NEWS BEHIND THE FESTIVAL

#### In tune with the Tubbies

ODDS-ON favourites to have the Number One record this Christmas are not Oasis, but The Tubbies, the undisputed stars of the Festival. While lesser executives were drinking in The George, Tubbies spin doctors were thrashing out a recording deal in secret meetings. The £300,000 deal, which is not yet signed, is understood to

only £800. Crisis was averted, however, when backs from *The Mirror*, *Sun* and *Daily Star* stepped in.

#### Low Marks

MOST heartrending Festival sight was the fear-stricken faces of BBC executives desperate to get an early copy of Marks and Gran's MacTaggart Lecture.

John Birt and Alan Yentob had been warned that it contained a blistering attack on the Blair regime and demanded to see it to get their reply in first. A farce ensued in which newspaper journalists were sent stampeding to one room while angst-ridden BBC representatives were led a false trail on the orders of Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran. When they got the speech staff drew straws as to who would break the news.

#### Private Pam

CONSPICUOUS by her absence from the Festival was Pam St Clement, the buxom actress who plays Pat Evans in *EastEnders*. Ms St Clement, a fierce protector of her privacy, was to have been a panellist in a debate about tabloids and their obsession with soap stars. She pulled out, however, having featured in that day's *Sunday Mirror* in an "amazing exclusive" about her long-lost



Tinky Winky and Po



St Clement absent

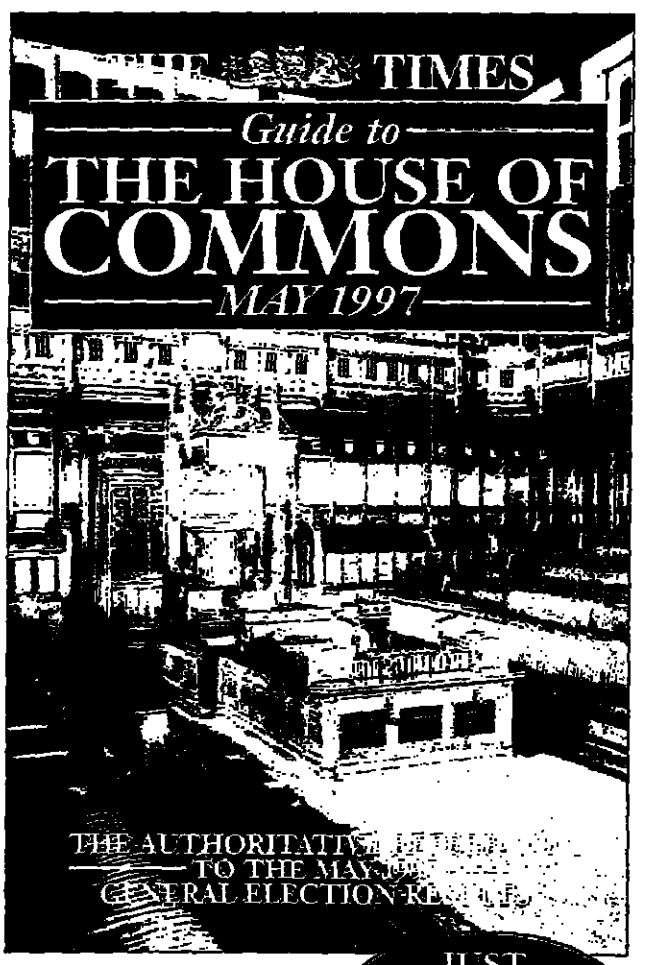
#### Who's paying?

RED faces all round at GMTV when public relations people found themselves financially embarrassed by a lunch bash at an Edinburgh oyster bar. Freelancing journalists availed themselves of GMTV's hospitality so readily that when the bill — more than £1,200 — arrived, their hosts found themselves £300 short. Last year, they said, it had cost

half-brother. Could her decision have been influenced by the fact that her fellow panellist was to have been David Banks, Consultant Editor of the er... *Sunday Mirror*?

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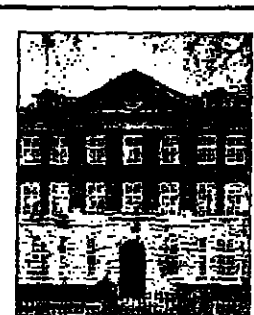
# THE TIMES

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27 1997

## Tobacco firms in US face pressure to settle

By Oliver August

THE LEADING tobacco companies are facing pressure to settle smoking-related legal actions worth up to \$20 billion (£12.5 billion) with two southern US states, after the \$11.3 billion deal with Florida. The Florida settlement means that BAT Industries, which owns the US cigarette-maker Brown & Williamson, will have to pay \$95 million to the state of Florida by September 15. It will then make payments starting at \$35 million next year and rising to \$70 million by 2004. The focus of the tobacco row will now move to other southern states with damage payments looming — Texas will begin court proceedings this week, while Georgia is to seek damages after previously suspending its action. On Monday, US tobacco companies agreed to an \$11.3 billion settlement with Florida over health care costs incurred from smoking-related illnesses. A total of 40 states have sued the tobacco industry. Mississippi was the first to win a settlement, worth \$3.6 billion, this year. A separate \$368 billion national deal is awaiting Congressional approval. It will supercede all the state deals, but if it fails the tobacco companies will have to pay out on a state-by-state basis. The Florida settlement amounts to 5.5 per cent of the national settlement and is tax-deductible. Tim Young, analyst at SocGen Securities, said: "This settlement will ease the passage of the national deal through Congress." — *Bronwen Maddox, page 9*

## BA cuts bookings in costly bid to ease Heathrow chaos

By Jon Ashworth



Crowd scenes: congestion affecting British Airways' check-in desks at Heathrow. The airline has taken measures to end the disruption

BRITISH AIRWAYS is turning away millions of pounds worth of bookings in an attempt to ease the pressure at Heathrow, its main operational base, which has suffered a summer of delayed flights and baggage disruptions. The "world's favourite airline" has admitted that the move, aimed at reducing the number of passengers transferring to and from long-haul flights, will result in the group suffering a significant financial hit. BA estimates that disruption linked to the recent industrial action by cabin crew cost it at least £125 million, and the airline faces further hefty payouts on lost and delayed baggage. Difficulties at Heathrow are a further blow for Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, who is seeking cost savings of £1 billion a year under his Business Efficiency Programme. Mr Ayling's uncompromising stance has led to accusations of "macho management" and complaints within BA that facilities in many areas are overstretched. Baggage system failures and go-slows by BA handlers at Heathrow, coupled with huge volumes of passengers transferring between Terminals One and Four, has resulted in widespread disruption to flights. To ease the strain, BA has instructed its direct sales force not to overbook flights at peak times, and to turn away low-yield bookings on feeder routes from Europe and regional UK airports. It hopes that the measures will provide a stop-gap solution at the airport, where flights have been running at up to 98 per cent of capacity, compared with the more usual figure of 75 per cent. BA typically overbooks flights by 10 to 20 per cent to compensate for "no-shows" — passengers who book but fail to turn up. This is being

scrapped at peak times until the end of September. In addition, the BA sales force is being told to sell 10 to 15 per cent fewer peak-time economy tickets on short-haul routes until the end of October. At Terminal 1, bookings will be restricted between 4pm and 10pm on Sunday — the peak time for returning passengers. Bookings at Terminal 4 will be reduced between 11am and 3pm from Friday to Sunday. Up to 180,000 passengers a day have been passing

through Heathrow this month, compared with an average for the rest of the year of 120,000 to 130,000 a day. BA said the measures would provide a "firebreak" for check-in staff and baggage handlers, easing pressure at departure gates. The aim is to cap the number of passengers transferring between Terminal 1 and Terminal 4 at 16,000 a day, compared with figures running at up to 20,000. A spokesman said: "It is obviously something that will have

an effect on revenue. It is worth taking a short-term hit with a view to sorting out the longer-term problems." Up to 40 per cent of BA passengers at Heathrow transfer from other flights, leaving little margin for error. During the first weekend in August about 5,500 items of luggage were misplaced or delayed. Forwarding misplaced baggage costs BA about £100 per item, leaving it facing a huge additional expense. The airline faces addi-

tional claims for compensation of up to £12 per kilogram. Travel agents were awaiting full details yesterday. Mike Plant, director of commercial affairs at Hogg Robinson Business Travel International, said: "The fundamental problem is that Heathrow is groaning at the seams. In a few years, the place is going to be gridlocked. These are the first warning signs..." BA's troubles will be seized on by rivals, including Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic,

which was quick to capitalise on the controversy over the new BA livery, introduced at a cost of £60 million. The decision by BA to drop the Union flag from its aircraft prompted Mr Branson to snatch the national colours for his fleet. BA made a pre-tax profit of £640 million (£585 million) in the year to end-March. Aviation analysts have sharply revised their 1997 forecasts in the light of the recent industrial action, coupled with the impact of the strong pound.

## BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FTSE 100	4886.3 (-14.8)
Yield	3.45%
FTSE All Share	2306.04 (-4.07)
Nikkei	18814.98 (-152.81)
New York	7839.13 (-20.44)*
Dow Jones	920.27 (-0.11)*
S&P Composite	920.27 (-0.11)*
US RATE	
Federal Funds	5.75% (5.75%)
Long Bond	98% (98%)
Yield	6.86% (6.85%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-mth interbank	7.4% (7.4%)
Life long gilt	114% (114%)
Future (Sep)	114% (114%)
STERLING	
New York	1.6121* (1.6090)
London	1.6127 (1.6253)
DM	2.9036 (2.917)
FF	9.7882 (9.8221)
SF	2.4016 (2.4068)
Yen	191.13 (192.59)
£ Index	101.6 (101.7)
DOLLAR	
London	1.7988* (1.8196)
DM	6.6570* (6.1285)
FF	1.4875* (1.5020)
Yen	118.34* (118.28)
£ Index	105.5 (105.5)
Tokyo close Yen	118.53
NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Nov)	\$18.40 (\$18.60)
GOLD	
London close	\$324.85 (\$324.85)
* denotes midday trading price	

## Vauxhall chief for Tecs job

THE Government yesterday began a shake-up of the much criticised Training and Enterprise Councils, with the appointment of an industrialist to head a new training standards council. Nick Reilly, chief executive of Vauxhall Motors, will try to boost standards in a massive review of the private companies used by Tecs to provide the training that is funded by the Government. — *Continued, page 25*  
Future in balance, page 27

## Royal designer tries to save fashion company

By Chris Ayres

ELIZABETH EMANUEL, the designer who shot to fame after making Lady Diana Spencer's wedding gown, yesterday pleaded for emergency financial backing as her fashion business teetered on the edge of collapse. Her company was jeopardised by the collapse of Hamlet, the clothing importer that owned a 48 per cent stake. Coopers & Lybrand, the administrator, put the stake up for sale yesterday, along with Hamlet's other businesses. Ms Emanuel, 44, who has designed clothes for Elizabeth Hurley, Patsy Kensit and Elizabeth Taylor, owns 52 per cent stake in her company, but cannot afford to keep it afloat alone. "It was a huge shock," she said. "Hamlet said they would take on the financial side of the company and look after us every step of the way."



Diana, Princess of Wales, in her wedding dress

The collapse came at a critical time in the company's development. It launched its first ready-to-wear collection in New York last month, at the same time as the charity auction of dresses belonging to Diana, Princess of Wales. "We have a fashion collection which we can't show," Ms Emanuel said. "We're looking for an angel or a white knight to come along and keep the business afloat."

## Stena Line fires salvo at MMC

By George Sivell

STENA LINE, the Swedish cross-channel ferry operator, yesterday blamed the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a deterioration in its commercial position that led to a net loss of Kr415 million (£32 million) for the six months to the end of June. P&O and Stena have proposed a merger of their cross-channel operations, but the deal remains the subject of an MMC inquiry. The Department of Trade and Industry will not comment on the timing of any announcement of the decision and the ensuing recommendation by Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade. Stena said "the competition authorities' time-consuming decision-making process has worsened the business situation and created worries in the company's UK subsidiary. This has had an increasingly disruptive effect on the earnings trend in the second quarter." The total number of Stena Line passengers rose 4 per cent to 7.3 million and freight volumes increased 18 per cent to 554,000 units. The number of English Channel passengers rose 4 per cent to 3.4 million, although freight increased 31 per cent to 260,000 units because of the effects of the Channel Tunnel fire. Sales across the entire group grew from Kr3.97 billion to Kr4.27 billion and the operating loss shrank from Kr332 million to Kr261 million. However, the net loss rose from Kr401 million to Kr415 million. Losses per share grew to Kr6.70 from Kr6.50. Stena said that it could not give a precise forecast for 1997 earnings until a merger ruling was given, but added that it expected results to improve.

## Lack of MCI escape clause knocks BT

By Eric Reguly

SHARES of British Telecom fell 5 per cent yesterday after it confirmed that its new merger agreement with MCI contained no escape clause and that dividend payments this year would be held at last year's level. The agreement, filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, means that BT must complete the £14 billion takeover even if MCI, America's second-largest long distance operator, issues another surprise profits warning or suffers a material change in its business. BT began negotiations to lower the price after MCI said in July that losses in its local calls business would come to \$800 million (about £496 million) this year — double the previous forecast. Facing a shareholder revolt, BT managed to reduce the price by about 15 per cent on the terms agreed late last year. The lower price seems to have won shareholder support. BT has also agreed to pay MCI \$750 million if shareholders reject the merger's revised terms. The company is to hold an extraordinary general meeting in November and intends to complete the merger by the end of the year. One analyst said the elimination of the escape clause had made investors a little bit nervous and contributed to the 22½p slide in the share price, to 413½p. Profit-taking was also behind the decline. BT shares rose 14 per cent last week when it disclosed MCI's willingness to agree new terms. The City yesterday estimated that BT's dividend payments could decline to as little as 18p this year after a regulatory filing said that the payments would not exceed 20p. In the year to March 31, BT's dividend payments were 18.35p, up 6 per cent over the previous year. The dividend payments are being adjusted to reflect the special 35p dividend that is to be paid next month. BT shares fell on the ex dividend date and the lower dividend payments will ensure the yield remains roughly constant. MCI shareholders are not eligible for BT's dividend payments in the current year. Concert, the name of the merged company, will pay its first interim dividend to all shareholders in February 1998. BT said that its existing global joint venture with MCI had won contracts worth \$135 million over three years. Companies buying the telecoms service include Microsoft, Pirelli and Compaq.

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## Market hopes soar for winning glider

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE first glider to be built in Britain for more than 20 years is to go into full-scale production after its 74-year-old pilot easily won a soaring competition.

The EAV Optimist was designed by John Edgley. The prototype was entered in last week's Lasham championships, which attracted more than 100 competitors. Piloted by Derek Piggott, a gliding instructor, the Optimist won its class outright on three of the seven days of competition and on one long cross-country trial was the only aircraft able to return to base.

Mr Piggott, one of the world's leading glider pilots for nearly 50 years, said yesterday: "Considering this glider is not designed especially for competition flying, it has an astonishing rate of climb and is very easy to fly and to handle. It gave me one of the best days flying I have ever had and completed the 300-kilometre trial in under four hours."

Now Mr Edgley is opening a small factory at Bideford in Devon to make the gliders. They have a 15.7-metre wingspan and a framework of fibreglass, which is used in commercial aircraft. They will be for sale in kit form to enthusiasts and clubs for £10,500.

"I noticed that there was a big gap in the glider market," he said. "None has been built in Britain for well over 20 years and the big makers are now in Germany, France, the US or Eastern Europe."

A new, foreign-built glider costs well over £20,000 without instruments or trailer. Most of the 100 or so traded in Britain each year are second hand.

Barry Rolfe, general secretary of the British Gliding Association, said: "We are absolutely delighted for John Edgley. It is important that his project is a success, not just for gliding but for the whole of British light aviation. We have not had a glider made in Britain since the Slingsby Vega in the late 1970s."



Derek Piggott, veteran pilot, who found the Optimist easy to fly and to handle, said it gave him one of the best days flying he had ever had

## Japanese productivity threat to jobs of British carmakers

By KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING EDITOR

THOUSANDS of car industry jobs are coming under threat as Japanese factories in Britain surge to the top of the productivity league.

Nissan's factory at Washington, Tyne and Wear, is now the most efficient in Europe, according to a study by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). Honda and Toyota fill third and fourth places, over-

shadowing domestic manufacturers, which are struggling to match their pace.

But the EIU believes that European carmakers will have to react with a huge shakeout of the workforce if they are to survive the onslaught from Japan and South Korea. "European manufacturers must no longer compromise in reducing manning levels progressively as productivity improvements are made," it says. "They cannot

hope that capacity and demand will converge naturally at some time in the future."

Only two other British car plants achieved the top 20 in the efficiency league: General Motors' Vauxhall plant at Luton, which makes the Vectra, and Rover's Longbridge plant in Birmingham, home of the Mini, Rover 100, 200 and 400, and MGF.

Nissan, which now has 4,133 workers, made 73.2 cars per employee last year at

Washington. Vauxhall turned out 34.9 at Luton and Longbridge just 28.2.

Toyota's plant at Burnaston, Derbyshire, employing 2,000, made 66.9 cars per employee, while Honda's 2,200 workers at Swindon in Wiltshire, turned out 64.2.

Toyota's production of the Carina E mid-range model was up 32 per cent, while Honda pushed output of its Accord and Civic models up 16 per cent. Honda is looking for

an extra model to boost totals even further by the turn of the century.

Only GM's Opel plant at Eisenach, Germany, is anywhere near the Japanese, though it was pushed into second place by Washington.

The EIU report adds: "The success of Japanese production in Europe is set to continue. However, they are still a long way off the productivity levels of some plants in Japan where the leaders — such as Honda's Suzuka and Mitsubishi's Mizushima facilities — achieve productivity of more than 100 vehicles a year per employee."

The report emphasises the struggle European carmakers face in trying to balance efficiency with quality. Speeding up assembly lines, many outdated and overmanned, could result in unreliable cars, which would damage consumer confidence and reduce sales, sending carmakers into a spiral of lost sales.

## Windfalls help to hold up Pep sales

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE PREDICTED slump in personal equity plan sales in the wake of the July 2 Budget has failed to materialise thus far thanks to building society windfalls and buoyant share prices.

unit trusts, usually the main vehicle, held up at £540 million in July, the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (AUTIF) calculates. This was about £100 million a month less than in May and June, but compares with £379 million in July last year.

In the Budget, Gordon

Brown, the Chancellor, abolished Peps' right to recover tax paid on dividends, albeit only after 1999, and announced that Peps were to be replaced by a new savings vehicle whose details are not yet known. This was expected to hit sales badly.

Instead, windfalls from the

conversion of mutual businesses powered Pep sales ahead, although most of these do not show up in the AUTIF figures.

Many schemes were launched to put shares in former building societies into single company Peps, or convert them into a unit trust Pep.

### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Lanica and the Naafi discuss Select stake

LANICA TRUST, Andrew Regan's investment vehicle, is in talks to sell its 55 per cent in Select Catalogues, a mail order joint venture, to its partner, the Naafi, the armed services trading arm. The Naafi said it was unlikely to pay substantially more for the stake than the £162,000 Lanica spent to purchase its interest last November. Lanica, which backed the aborted £1.2 billion bid for the Co-operative Wholesale Society earlier this year, had hoped to float the business, which sells to 250,000 servicemen and women worldwide, for as much as £20 million. However, the business is valued by the Naafi at a fraction of this price tag. "We are a non-profit making organisation run for the benefit of service personnel," a Naafi official said. "Therefore we are not going to pay a price which will yield a substantial profit for Lanica."

Criminal charges against Mr Regan and David Lyons, his partner, related to the CWS bid, were dropped last week. However, a police investigation continues into the passing of confidential CWS documents to Galileo, Lanica's bid vehicle, and to Hambros and Travers Smith Braithwaite, its advisers.

## Sanderson Bramall up

SANDERSON BRAMALL, the motor dealership, yesterday said it was ready to make substantial acquisitions, but declined to say if this included Appleyard, a troubled rival. Sanderson Bramall has 26 car dealerships and 11 commercial dealerships, mainly in the North and the Midlands. Yesterday it reported a rise in pre-tax profits in the six months to June 30, from £6.1 million to £6.5 million. Earnings rose to 13.25p (12.18p) a share. The interim dividend is increased to 1.34p (1.0p) a share, payable on November 1.

## Oilfield given approval

ENTERPRISE OIL has received Department of Trade and Industry approval to develop the Pierce field in the central North Sea. Enterprise also said it had completed its deal with BP in which Enterprise will buy BP's 42.8 per cent interest in Pierce in return for Enterprise's 24.05 per cent of the Arethyst field and 13.50 per cent of its interest in Ravenspurn North. Enterprise's overall interest in Pierce will rise to 74 per cent. The field is expected to begin production next August at 20,000 barrels a day, rising to 45,000 soon after.

## Sales decline hits Astec

SHARES in Astec (BSR), the Hong Kong electronics company listed in London, fell 19p to 141p yesterday, after it reported a 10 per cent slump in sales for the six months to June 30, from £199.1 million to £179.4 million. Pre-tax profits fell by just under 1 per cent from £13.1 million to £13 million, with earnings per share falling 3 per cent from 3.32p to 3.22p. An interim dividend of 0.69p (0.63p) will be paid on November 4. The company said profits and earnings had been hit by its plans to gain market share. Tempus, page 26

## John Mansfield ahead

JOHN MANSFIELD, the small quoted timber company turned into an acquisition vehicle in June by Julian Treger and Brian Myerson through their predatory UK Active Value Fund, yesterday said that its first purchase would be made within the next few months. Meanwhile, the timber business reported a 5.7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £130,000 on a 17.4 per cent rise in turnover to £6.4 million. Earnings per share were unchanged at 0.15p. No interim dividend will be paid. The company expects higher margins in the second half.

## Cortecs seeks licence

CORTECS International, the oral drug development company, has filed its first application for a licence to market Macrinon, its osteoporosis drug, in the Republic of Ireland. The company hopes to use the mutual recognition process operated by the European Medicines Evaluation Agency to secure pan-European approval for its capsule as soon as possible. However, Cortecs still intends to apply to other national agencies — apparently fearing the mutual recognition process may be amended in the next year or so.

## Newport bid 'rejected'

DELYN, the AIM-listed company, declared yesterday that holders of 55.97 per cent of its shares had given "irrevocable undertakings" not to accept the current offer by Newport Holdings. Delyn added that the undertakings would fall away in the event of a revised offer from Newport or another third party. Delyn also invited Newport to announce formally its intention to allow the offer to lapse at the first closing date, "thereby saving both Delyn and Newport unnecessary costs". Shares in Delyn remained unchanged at 97½p yesterday.

## Irish Permanent rises

IRISH PERMANENT, Ireland's biggest lender, boosted pre-tax profits by 11.5 per cent to Ir£25.9 million (£23.76 million) in the first six months of the year. Loans and advances to customers rose 9.6 per cent to Ir£3.4 billion. Together with strong growth from Irish Permanent Finance, its car and consumer finance subsidiary, net interest income increased 9.5 per cent to Ir£53 million. Total assets rose 13 per cent to Ir£5.6 billion. Earnings rose to Ir£20.6p a share from Ir£18.5p. A gross interim dividend of Ir£5.8p, up 11.5 per cent, will be paid on September 3.

## 3i to expand fund

THE venture capital group, 3i, is expanding its fund for investment in smaller British buyouts and buyins. The original fund was launched this spring and will now be augmented with further funding, raising the total available to £250 million from the original £62.5 million. The company and the original investor, a leading British pension fund, are making further commitments of £137.5 million and Nederlandse Participatie Maatschappij, the Dutch investment manager, will commit £50 million.

## Clydeport in talks with bank over property venture

By CHRIS AVRES

CLYDEPORT, the privatised port services company with operations in Glasgow, Greenock and Hunterston, yesterday said that it was in talks with the Bank of Scotland over a possible property joint venture.

The company already has a joint venture with the Clydesdale Bank, called Clydesdale Properties, which recently completed a £2 million investment and plans to spend another £8 million over the next year.

Peter McKellar, Clydeport's corporate development director, said: "We're talking to the bank, but they are pushing us harder than we are pushing them. With the Clydesdale joint venture, we buy industrial property and develop it, which is high yielding. Although most of the property is based in West Scotland, we could soon move to the rest of Scotland, the North of England and also Northern Ireland."

The statement came as Clydeport reported a 47.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30, from £2.8 million to £4.2 million. Turnover rose 15.7 per

cent, from £9.02 million to £10.4 million, with earnings per share rising 47.8 per cent, from 6.8p to 10.1p.

Clydeport, which recently appointed Tom Allison as chief executive after a six-month search prompted by David Hunt's resignation in February, said that trading in the second half might not be as strong as in the first.

However, the company expects a satisfactory performance for the full year. An interim dividend of 1.7p (1.5p) will be paid on October 10.



McKellar: Scottish plans

## Barclay brothers buy failed newspaper

## Sunday Business rescue plan

By JASON NISSE

THE secretive Barclay brothers, whose empire includes The Scotsman, The European and the Ritz Hotel in London, yesterday paid a nominal sum for Sunday Business, the national newspaper that ceased publication seven weeks ago.

Frederick and David Barclay plan to relaunch the title, probably in the spring, with a completely new look and editorial emphasis. Bert Hardy, chief executive of the Barclays' European Press Holdings, said that he wants to put together a "very reputable

and capable team of journalists" for the newspaper. Sunday Business first appeared in April last year, immediately ran into trouble and was rescued from administration. After its largest shareholder, Group 2000, collapsed in July, the paper's founder and original editor, Tom Ruythoff, backed by Owen Oyston, the media entrepreneur jailed for rape, led a failed rescue package.

Mr Hardy said the Barclays were interested in other titles, notably The Independent and Independent on

Sunday, which they are believed to be willing to buy for up to £35 million. Although Mirror Group is interested in selling its 46 per cent stake, the other 46 per cent shareholder, Tony O'Reilly's Independent Newspapers, says it is committed to The Independent for the long term. Mirror Group has also looked at launching a daily financial newspaper in conjunction with Bloomberg, the financial information group. However, after extensive market research, the plans have been dropped.

### TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Boys	Bank
Australia	2.27	2.09	
Austria	21.45	19.78	
Belgium	23.15	21.19	
Canada	2.37	2.18	
Cyprus	0.00	0.00	
Denmark	11.05	10.78	
Finland	9.24	8.45	
France	10.25	9.47	
Germany	3.07	2.85	
Greece	208.28	192.70	
Hong Kong	13.28	12.09	
Iceland	1.27	1.07	
Ireland	1.14	1.08	
Israel	6.01	5.38	
Italy	20.13	17.78	
Japan	208.28	192.70	
Malta	0.00	0.00	
Netherlands	3.482	3.161	
Norway	12.71	11.77	
Portugal	207.53	188.50	
Spain	257.29	238.50	
Sweden	13.25	12.45	
Switzerland	2.35	2.15	
Turkey	277.025	259.047	
USA	1.719	1.578	

Notes: For small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

► REWARDING TIMES ◀

# 10 bestsellers for just £1.98 each

This week *The Times*, in association with Penguin Books, gives you the chance to obtain up to ten bestselling paperbacks for your summer reading for as little as £1.98 each. There are eleven outstanding works of fiction for you to choose from and one autobiography.

All you have to do is collect four tokens per title from the six published in *The Times*. Below are two of the titles you can choose (a full list was published yesterday). Other bestsellers include Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess, *The Trial* by Franz Kafka and *Cry The Beloved Country* by Alan Paton.

**Harvest**  
"By far her best book" - Elizabeth Buchan in the *Sunday Times*

**MY FAMILY AND OTHER ANIMALS**

LEFT: Every year the wife of a serial adulterer throws a party in his honour. This year he has won and he will be harvested. RIGHT: It is a close-run thing who the author's eccentric family or the animals he studies.

THE TIMES  
TOKEN 3



# Lanica and the N discuss Select stake

The experts at Ladbroke would not bet against Steve Bollenbach winning his battle to take control of ITT. His energy and determination have reinvigorated the Hilton hotels group and he is now putting all his drive into his assault on the rival organisation.

# Sanderson Bramall

Much now depends on the deliberations of a Nevada judge, who is being asked to rule that ITT's imaginative strategy for funding off Bollenbach should not be allowed to proceed without shareholder approval.

# Oilfield given approval

All is sweetness between the two, and the co-operation agreement precludes a hostile bid. But if ITT can keep Bollenbach at bay, the chances are that he might turn his attentions to getting closer to Ladbroke. He

# John Mansfield ahead

man and chief executive of ITT, gave the offer short shrift, declaring he would continue to pursue the plan to split.

# Cortec seeks licence

LLOYDS TSB is selling Schroder Munchmeyer Hengst (SMH), its German investment bank, to UBS for £100 million.

# Newport bid rejected

SMH's customers have included a company run by John Bryan, the former associate of the Duchess of York, which went bust after borrowing from the German bank.

# Irish Permanent rise

Lloyds TSB said that these functions are no longer a core concern. It had been rumoured as long ago as 1990, when Sir Brian Patten was disposing of other foreign ventures such as its US commercial banking interests, that the high street retail banking giant would sell SMH.

# Backing Bollenbach either way



COMMENTARY  
by our City Editor

It is not seen for many years. The plan to divide the business into its component parts, with a juicy special dividend heading to investors, is a neat retort to Bollenbach's hostile bid. But if shareholders were to have a say in the deal, they might well opt for joining forces with Bollenbach, who could make much of the Sheraton brand and would enlist the help of Ladbroke in running some of the hotels, and, probably, casinos.

The generous bids currently being made for the William Hill chain indicate that there would be no shortage of takers for Ladbroke's bookie business. For Ladbroke shareholders, the Nevada court case could be one unrecognised by the bookmakers: heads you win, tails you win.

When faced with the formality of voting on whether they want the deal to go through, BT shareholders are likely to find that penalty clause features large in their thinking. Nonetheless, some analysts are advising investors to vote against buying MCI, querying the wisdom of the strategy behind the purchase. It has the look of a desperate move to grow globally, embarked upon without sufficient research and now being carried through to preserve egos, both corporate and individual. Yes, BT has negotiated a reduced price for what it made clear it regarded as damaged goods. But the speed with which the renegotiations were accomplished begs the question as to why the MCI board was so keen to deal.

It cannot be the case that no more desirable partner could be found. In proceeding so determinedly with the deal, BT has had the dubious satisfaction of striking a massive blow to the arbitrageurs who took a punt on the outcome of the affair. But it is BT shareholders who may yet have to pay a much higher price for this affair.

## Investors' money on the line

The antics of the BT board continue to give cause for concern. Having raised their hands in horror and, only last week, indicated that doubts about the MCI takeover were so significant that there was no certainty that the deal would proceed, they are now back to being wholeheartedly enthusias-

# Hilton goes to court over ITT bid defence

By DOMINIC WALSH

HILTON Hotels Corporation, the American hotel and gaming giant embroiled in a protracted takeover battle for ITT Corporation, has turned to the courts in an attempt to have its arch rival's defence strategy declared illegal.

ITT, which owns the Sheraton Hotels brand, is planning to split in three as part of a scorched earth defence. It has seen its £2 billion (£1.2 billion) of assets since Stephen Bollenbach, Hilton's president and chief executive officer, launched the \$6.5 billion takeover bid in January.

Last month, Mr Bollenbach raised the bid to \$8.3 billion - worth \$11.5 billion including debt - and made it clear that this was his final offer. However, Rand Araskog, chairman and chief executive of ITT, gave the offer short shrift, declaring he would continue to pursue the plan to split.

In a motion filed with Nevada District Court on Monday, Hilton claimed ITT's refusal to put the break-up to a shareholder vote was illegal and that ITT's directors were in breach of their fiduciary duties. It has requested a hearing in a month's time.

## Lloyds TSB sells SMH of Germany

By ADAM JONES

LLOYDS TSB is selling Schroder Munchmeyer Hengst (SMH), its German investment bank, to UBS for £100 million.

## JCB lifts sights to Europe

By ADAM JONES

JCB, the privately owned construction equipment company, is to push into the forklift truck market (Christine Buckley writes).

## Hansom prepares to complete sell-off

By OLIVER AUGUST

HANSOM GROUP, the taxi company, has put its last two businesses up for sale after two disastrous years on the Alternative Investment Market.

## Moorfield acquires MoD homes

By ADAM JONES

MOORFIELD Estate, the property company that was rebuffed last year in its attempt to take over Greycoat, is acquiring 149 houses that were formerly Ministry of Defence married quarters.

## Hambro seeks to expand insurance business

By ADAM JONES

HAMBRO Countrywide, the estate agency and financial services group, is looking to buy a life insurer for up to £150 million to expand its existing insurance business.

## Price war fuels profit warning at Eurocopy

By PAUL DURMAN

A WARNING of four years of declining profits at Eurocopy, the quoted copier distributor, was yesterday blamed on the outbreak of a fierce price war in the photocopying industry.

## Growing talk on the sale of IPC

By ERIC REGULY

SPECULATION that Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing group, wants to sell its British consumer magazines division increased yesterday after the company refused to confirm or deny reports that offers were being sought.

## Price war fuels profit warning at Eurocopy

By PAUL DURMAN

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## Working party will not work wonders

By ADAM JONES

Yet another business has taken on the task of leading another government initiative. We are still waiting for Anita Roddick to be appointed to head a special committee to investigate how nursery schools are dealing with impressionable youngsters' understanding of Aboriginal culture.

## Jaw-jaw

By ADAM JONES

THE World Bank has offered to host a tête à tête in September between Malaysia's prime minister and George Soros, who he has rashly accused of attacking the ringgit. What a pity no such meeting was held five years ago between Mr Soros and our own Chancellor. Sterling would still have been devalued, but Norman Lamont might thereby have avoided the Day of Three Bank Rates, saved the UK's reserves and his own political career.



Sir Anthony Bamford, JCB chairman, showing off the telescopic lifting arm of the Teletruk

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Cheshire Building Society advertisement with tables for investment rates and mortgage rates.



## STOCK MARKET

CLARE STEWART

## New US deal on tobacco clears the air for BAT

BAT led the FTSE 100 risers yesterday as it jumped 19.1p to 533.1p. The increase came with news of the second settlement between a US state and the tobacco industry, leaving BAT's US division to pay around 17 per cent of the \$6.9 billion settlement, less than the worst forecasts.

The deal shows a willingness of both sides to reach a settlement, says Paul Preston, tobacco analyst at Sogen. Progress in the legal action removes much of the uncertainty hanging over the stock, he says. Mr Preston yesterday repeated his buy recommendation for BAT, for which he has a target price range of 67.3p to 82.2p.

In BAT's wake, Gallaher ended 2p lower at 234.1p, while Imperial Tobacco rose 5.1p to 393.2p. Both face legal action in the US, although resolution of the class actions is said to be some way off.

The smoke rising from the BAT settlement proved to be one of the more substantial news items for the market to grasp yesterday.

After wobbly Friday came cautious Tuesday as investors took profits or refuge in some blue-chip safe havens.

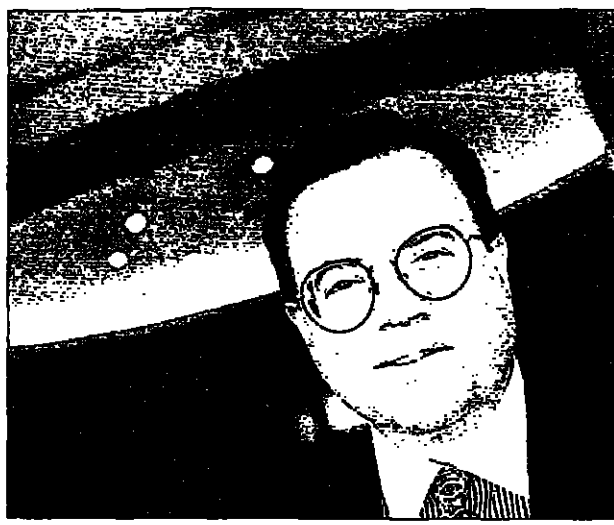
Secondary stocks were also in demand and the FTSE 250 held its own for much of the day. Weakness on bond markets and concern over a rise in German interest rates combined to drag the FTSE 100 49.2 points lower at its worst.

By the close, the index had recovered some ground, helped by stronger gilts and some support from Wall Street. The FTSE 100 ended off 14.8 at 4,886.3, with volume thin at around 550 million.

BT once again kept traders busy as nearly 34 million shares were traded, boosted again by arbitrage activity. The shares ended 22.2p lower at 413.3p, reflecting a degree of profit-taking and reaction to further details of the new MCI merger agreement.

A flurry of trading in Shell saw volumes of over 34 million, just pipping BT as the most heavily traded stock. The shares ended 2.1p higher at 425.1p. The oil sector was also lifted by gains at Burmah Castrol, which rose 16.1p to 111.02p, while Enterprise Oil rose 6p to 589.1p. The group has just received DTI approval for the Pierce field in the North Sea.

Centrica was in demand and added 2.1p to 88.1p, while



Howard Lance, of Astec, down 22.4p on poor results

electricity stocks were again sought after. National Grid put on 5p to 271p, while National Power was 5.1p ahead at 541.1p.

Reed International ended 2p lower at 547.1p, after cold water was poured on reports that the group was looking to sell its IPC Magazines business.

Banks were largely unchanged on the day. Barclays

closed off a penny at £14.04 after announcing a buyback of a further one million shares. Lloyds TSB was flat at 724.1p after selling its 90 per cent stake in a German private bank, Standard Chartered, however, lost some of its recent gains to close at 994p, down 15p.

It was helped 7.1p higher to 484.1p by positive comment, while sales of the new Oasis

album serenaded EMI Group to 554.1p, up 7p.

Bicompatibles headed the table of FTSE 250 performers, as shares leapt 62.1p to £115.1p. Fresh hopes that the healthcare group is about to finalise an important agreement with Johnson & Johnson were said to be behind the rise.

A warning of lower profits and a gloomy outlook on prospects for the next three to five years lit up warning lights at Eurocopy. Shares in the photocopy business dived nearly 45 per cent to 32p, a drop of 26p, and a new low for the company. Danka Business was dragged down by Eurocopy and ended 30p lower at 740p.

Storehouse continued its steady upward climb with a 3.1p rise to 235p. Speculation about interest from GUS was said to be behind some of the rumours, together with hopes of implementation at BHS.

Hambro Countrywide was unchanged at 123p after reporting a jump of 130 per cent in interim profits. Hambros, the merchant bank which has a 52 per cent stake in Hambro Countrywide, rose 2.1p to 232.1p.

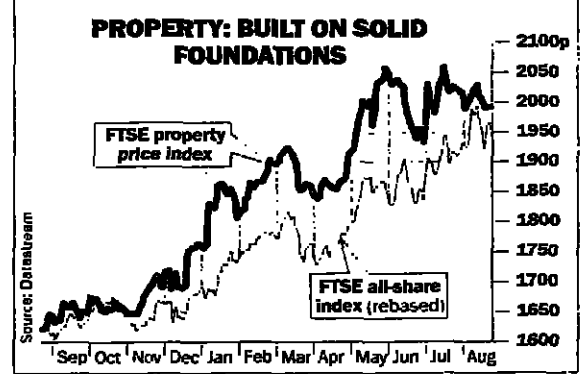
Ahead of its figures today, Kalon Group, the chemicals and paints group, rose 5.1p to 162p, while disappointing first-half profits from Astec (BSR), left shares in the group 22.4p lower at 137.1p. The group, under Howard Lance, chief executive, warned that margins will be squeezed by moves to expand market share.

Style Holdings, the men's wear retailer, made its debut as an AIM-listed stock. Placed at 71.1p, the company rose to a premium of 12p, closing at 83.1p. Style is raising money to finance the expansion of its Envy retail chain.

GIIT-EDGED: A flurry of futures driven activity stung gilts yesterday, though the absence of any hard economic data meant a generally quiet day. The September series of the long gilt closed up 0.32 at £141.12, with 70,000 contracts completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2000 edged up 0.22 at £102.12, while Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was 0.14 higher at £109.12.

NEW YORK: Shares pared more recent gains by late morning as bonds and the dollar recovered. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 20.44 points lower at 7,839.13.



PROPERTY: BUILT ON SOLID FOUNDATIONS

PROPERTY shares have seen a slowdown in the past three months, but the factors underpinning the sector have improved. So say analysts expecting to see a more confident performance by leading companies as economic factors and increased institutional interest filter through.

At the very least, says Robin White, an analyst with NatWest Securities, the sector should provide a good, defensive performance, but he says there could be a ten per cent relative outperformance over the rest of the year.

Shares in Slough Estates, due to report figures today, rose 8.1p to 323p, while Minerva climbed 10.1p to 188.1p after its £105 million property sale to Prudential.

Change of 27p after news of its acquisition of a former Mod site, MEPC, with plenty of cash in the bank and widely expected to announce acquisitions, was yesterday unchanged at 472.1p.

Among other stocks favoured by analysts, Greysteel dipped a penny to 183.1p and Pillar Properties rose 2p to 237.1p.

## COMMODITIES

ICE US (London 6.00pm)  
CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel FOB)

ICE US (London 6.00pm)  
NATURAL GAS (\$/100 cu ft FOB)

ICE US (London 6.00pm)  
HEATING OIL (\$/barrel FOB)

ICE US (London 6.00pm)  
GULF CRUDE (\$/barrel FOB)

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## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Long Gilt  
Previous open interest 12,784

German Govt Bond (Bund)  
Previous open interest 28,704

Italian Govt Bond (BTP)  
Previous open interest 1,044

Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)  
Previous open interest 1,044

Three Mth Sterling  
Previous open interest 10,424

Three Mth Eurodollar  
Previous open interest 10,424

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## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday)  
Dow Jones 13,133 (+20.44)  
S&P Composite 930.27 (+0.11)

Tokyo  
Nikkei Average 18,914.06 (+158.81)

Hong Kong  
Hang Seng 15,547.22 (+1,566)

Amsterdam  
EEX Index 903.44 (+18.75)

Sydney  
ASX 2,626.3 (+10.8)

Frankfurt  
DAX 3,999.33 (+112.46)

Singapore  
Straits 1,925.20 (+11.65)

Brussels  
General 13,300.75 (+112.29)

Paris  
CAC-40 2,949.26 (+29.41)

Zurich  
SIX Gen 1,162.50 (+21.30)

London  
FTSE 100 4,886.3 (+14.8)

FTSE 250 2,400.0 (+8.7)

FTSE 1000 2,570.39 (+57.7)

FTSE All-Share 2,206.04 (+6.07)

FTSE Financials 2,315.49 (+6.99)

FTSE Food Interm 1,255.41 (+0.18)

FTSE Govt Secs 960.1 (+0.03)

Barrington 41,225

SEAO Volume 619,200

US\$ 1.6302 (+0.0013)

German Mark 2.935 (-0.01)

Exchange Index 101.6 (-0.1)

Bank of England official close (Hppi)

LEDR 175.5 Jul 13.3% Jan 1987=100

RPI 154.4 Jul 13.0% Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Antofagasta Cvs 401.1

Blakes Clothing 79.1

Bristol & West Pl 108

Cannell Laird 136

EMI B 115

Fairfield Ent 117.1

GR Holdings 55

Galen Holdings 213.1

Helicon Publisg 98

Ionica Corp 349

Kingfisher Leisure 175.1

LECO 78.1

Landround 209.1

Resbourne Merit 109.1

SBS Group 110

Servent Tents 33.1

Stentor Warrants 83.1

Thorn B 20.1

Viglen Technology 63.1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Dixon Mtrs n/p (235) 26.1 + 2.1

Golden Land n/p (21) 2.1

Logica n/p (605) 16.1

Pendragon n/p (265) 2.1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Impala Pl 690.1 (+25p)

PI Group 585.1 (+18p)

Swire Pacific 525.1 (+13p)

Pasion 375.1 (+8.1p)

Ranger 605.1 (+11p)

Hutch Whamp 612.1 (+10p)

Photobank 640.1 (+10p)

FALLS:

Ramsden Mth 441.1 (-26p)

Ramsden Mth 340.1 (-17.1p)

Danka Bn Svc 740.1 (-30p)

Thorn B n/p (200) 280.1 (-10p)

Smith WH 367.1 (-11p)

Parly 501.1 (-12p)

Br Airways 644.1 (-13p)

Cable Wireless 561.1 (-10p)

Dixons Gp 654.1 (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 29

## TEMPUS

## Nerves of steel required

The big question is whether UK fund managers will stick to their cherished principles or abandon hope and chase the market leaders. Four consecutive quarters of underperformance in UK equities is a heavy burden. A reluctance to buy highly rated banks and pharmaceuticals is understandable, but that still begs the question as to where the funds will invest their growing cashflow that will be swollen further by another rash of share buybacks next year.

UK funds are significantly underweight in drug companies and banks, the darlings of the FTSE 100 but, more important, they are overinvested in cyclical industries. Statistics published by Dresdner Kleinwort Benson show UK institutions with a weighting of 4.5 per cent to the engineering sector, which accounts for only 3.7 per cent of the all-share

index. Likewise, our fund managers have been pouring money into the chemicals, building materials and the paper and packaging sector, while spurning retail banks, telecoms and the media sector.

This leaves active fund managers with a stock-picking problem: those who hope for a cyclical recovery in those businesses (engineering, chemicals) currently hammered by the strong pound will find themselves already fully invested. It also questions their belief in Britain's industrial recovery. While overseas funds, attracted by the lower UK share ratings, chase the banks or the dollar-denominated oil sector, our pension fund managers hope for a swift recovery in engineering businesses that have suffered a 25 per cent loss of price competitiveness. There is a good chance our fund managers could lose their nerve.

## Eurocopy

EUROCOPY has produced its own version of a millennium timebomb - a warning of four years of declining profits until the year 2000. The photocopy distributor blames a savage price war, allegedly caused by the leading manufacturers Sharp, Ricoh and Canon fighting to protect their market share from the American distributors, Danka and Alcon.

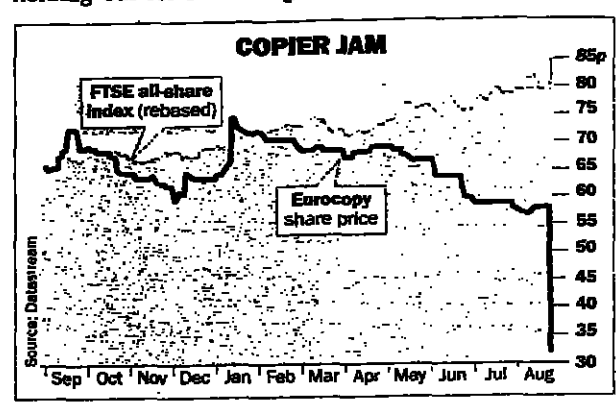
The market's sudden plunge into turmoil would be easier to believe if someone else was suffering. But Danka claims there is nothing to worry about, while Ricoh disputes that it has significantly increased its volume of direct sales. Special pleading? Well, perhaps. But even Eurocopy admits to finding it hard to acquire smaller businesses at what it calls acceptable prices. How

can this be if the future is so bleak? Surely Eurocopy was not alone in seeing the impending cataclysm?

Cyril Gay, the founder, chairman and largest shareholder, was certainly not so prescient two years ago, when he turned down a takeover offer of about 100p a share, apparently holding out for something

closer to 120p. After yesterday's slide, the shares are worth only 32p, of which 17p is accounted for by £8.5 million of cash.

At 62, Mr Gay does not have the time to steer Eurocopy through another prolonged recovery. With the business going nowhere, the shares are a bet on a takeover.



## Astec (BSR)

LAST year's bid by Siebe for Unitech was a watershed for the power supply market. The takeover, priced at some 22 times earnings, put a spark in the shares of rival Astec (BSR), but yesterday the company reminded investors about business cycles and the inevitable price deflation in the highly competitive market for consumer electronics.

A year ago, this column warned that price competition would catch up with Astec and so it has with flat profits in the first half, although the company reckons it has prevented margin erosion with cost savings and more efficient factories.

Price deflation is a fact of life in the personal computer market: a challenge rather than a problem for suppliers when demand is growing. However, the slump that hit PC makers late last year provided an opportunity to squeeze suppliers hard. At

the same time, Astec's customers in Europe were coping badly with recession.

The answer is to increase volume and recover the market share lost in the PC sector to Astec's rivals. That will further short-term pressure on margins, admits the company, but Unitech, Astec's rival, will not doubt be adopting the same strategy using Siebe's financial muscle.

In theory, Astec and two or three rivals could carve up the power supply market by taking over production from the PC makers who still account for 40 per cent of units produced. But, with the industry still in recovery, that privilege will only be granted at a very keen price. The shares should be treated with the same caution.

## Hambro Countrywide

How can estate agents extend the housing recovery to less fashionable locations? In London, they redraw maps to

stimulate slow-moving properties: Hampstead and Kensington now encompass most of north and west London. With 230 offices outside London and the South East, where it has 501 branches, Hambro Countrywide will need to be particularly creative to maintain volumes.

Plans to spend up to £150 million on a life insurer may be wishful thinking. Guardian Royal Exchange's lacklustre UK life arm might be a candidate, but everyone is bidding for a good stand-alone mutual insurer.



TEMPUS  
s of steel require

## Puzzles on the road to liberty or ruin

The fun is nearly over. There are precious few windfalls in sight after the Northern Rock payout, though there could, as HSBC points out this week, be more somewhere over the rainbow. There is still plenty of wealth that is not tradeable, and has no clear owner, starting with the 70 remaining mutual building societies. Their potential payout is £10 billion, the mutual insurance companies could contribute the same again, and there is still the Co-op, and such other "anomalous" as Bupa, the AA and RAC, schools, universities, trade unions, cricket clubs... All this could be "unlocked" but do not expect a rush — 1997, when some £30 billion fell like rain on parched consumers, will remain unique.

For economists, though, the fun has hardly begun. Up to now they have simply been trying to guess the impact

on consumer spending this year, and perhaps next, and what effect, if any, this may have on inflation. But the episode is truly unprecedented and deserves deeper study. What is the real meaning of making so much wealth newly tradeable? Are members truly richer — the legendary free lunch — or was it simply a dangerous exercise in greed? Where does it fit in with that still bigger capital reorganisation known as privatisation? It will be years before we can be sure, but meanwhile it is fun trying to guess.

Start with inflation. Here we have a test bed for pure monetarism. Professor Milton Friedman, as you may remember, tried to make his doctrine

clear by describing the effect of scattering money from a helicopter: no real wealth would be involved so the only result could be to drive up prices. Unbelievers scoffed at this notion; that is not how money gets into circulation. But now it has happened in real life. If inflation does rise, his ideas may come back into fashion. But if it does not, we may begin to blow the dust off some older theories. Social Credit, for example, the Canadian notion that an economy might be energised by a free distribution of capital.



ANTHONY HARRIS

My own guess would be Keynesian: that is to say, that it all depends on the circumstances. If there is enough spare capacity in the economy — and this includes trading partners — then free capital, like devaluation, or government spending for that matter, may stimulate growth rather than inflation. In the 1960s and 1970s capacity was tight, and inflation high; but by the mid-1990s we had surplus capacity almost everywhere and widespread unemployment. So, if all goes well, with more growth but no more inflation, it may be Keynes whose

ideas are due for a comeback. Of course, this is not the first big free addition to tradeable capital: that was achieved by privatisation. This, in principle, was a debt-for-equity swap and should have reduced the national debt as fast as it added to the equity stock; but real life is not like that. The proceeds have largely been used by governments for current spending, which has devastated the public sector balance sheet. Governments have thus proved much less provident than building society account holders seem to be on present evidence, which may be important.

The economic puritans who largely run the world at the moment have

made privatisation a compulsory fashion: the IMF insists on it. The agenda here is surely political rather than economic: the Lawson doctrine that private citizens, and even privately-owned companies, are wiser managers than governments can ever be. This raises rather a big question: if citizens are so wise, why do governments need to have economic policies at all? Only the most logical of libertarians seems ready to face this one.

Yet these same puritans remain iffy about demutualisation. Something fishy there, they seem to suggest, as Tony Blair did when he patronisingly congratulated Nationwide members on their recent vote. This is surely illogical: if citizens are wiser than governments, they may also prove wiser than the very odd quangos that have run the mutual societies? So is it liberty or ruin? The question is not trivial.

## Golden opportunity to realise black economic empowerment

Inigo Gilmore  
on Cyril  
Ramaphosa's  
march from  
barricades  
to boardroom

Cyril Ramaphosa, trade unionist turned corporate champion, is a man on a mission to empower, and he is brimming with confidence. The architect of South Africa's new constitution is poised to acquire joint control of the world's third-biggest gold producer in a deal that promises to be the most spectacular development in the country's short history of black economic empowerment.

The former Secretary-General of the ruling African National Congress (ANC) and past leader of the National Mine Workers Union has, for some time, been eyeing a much-coveted prize in the South African mining industry — and now it is within his grasp. Last year he lost a bid for Anglo American's stake in JCI, the South African gold producer, currently in talks with Lonrho, but he seems determined to put all that behind him.

He concedes the deal is "complex" and will reveal little about the ongoing negotiations, but his broad smile speaks volumes. He said: "If it succeeds, it will have huge implications for black economic empowerment, in that we will have the second mining house owned and jointly controlled by a black economic empowerment group — like ours, Nalco (New Africa Investments Limited). It will also mean a partnership with an established grouping like the Rembrandt group."

It is widely held that Mr Ramaphosa quit politics after he was squeezed out of the race to succeed President Mandela by Thabo Mbeki, the Deputy President. Sixteen months after he announced his plans to join the conglomerate Nalco, South Africa's biggest black-owned company, he has emerged as the standard bearer of black economic empowerment and arguably the country's most influential black businessman.

It has been, by his own admission, a steep learning curve. He is on record as saying of his first meeting with Anglo's executives that he did not have the "lightest cue" what a price-to-earnings ratio was. Nevertheless, he is now on Anglo's board and is fast



Cyril Ramaphosa has emerged as the standard bearer of black economic empowerment in post-apartheid South Africa

learning the jargon of the corporate world.

Chairman of Johnnic, Times Media and South African Breweries, the country's leading industrial company, Mr Ramaphosa's move from the barricades to boardroom has been spectacular and he has already presided over the largest black economic empowerment deal in the country's history. The erstwhile contender for the post-Mandela presidency says he is thoroughly enjoying himself and argues that "you don't have to be a rocket scientist to be a businessman".

Whether he is able to successfully launch himself as an effective businessman, however, is a matter of some debate and the Gold Fields deal will be a crucial test. One of his business rivals, Mzi Khumalo, a former political prisoner, stole a march on him to take control of JCI, and Khumalo's talks with Lonrho are progressing.

It is perhaps inevitable that South Africa's two most prominent black businessmen — dubbed the "black randlords" in Johannesburg's financial circles — have set their sights on the mining industry, which accounts for 8 per cent of GDP. But it is a game of high stakes. While he concedes

there could be "dire consequences" if the gold price keeps falling, there's a touch of the Jimmy Goldsmith in his bullish attitude. "I'm learning in business that business is about taking risks, and we happen to think it's a risk well worth taking," he said. "Gold is in the doldrums now, gold shares are also lowly pegged. I happen to believe gold will rebound and will regain its status, and I have an abiding faith in future of the industry, particularly in this country."

Gavin Kelly, the former Anglo chairman, has said that Mr Ramaphosa, in his capacity as miners union general secretary, was the toughest and shrewdest negotiator with whom he had ever dealt. Mr Ramaphosa has sought to apply those skills in the corporate world but there is a perception that he may, at times, be a little out of his depth. His detractors would scoff at his idea that black ownership will improve labour relations.

A devout Christian, not to mention a handy fisherman, his faith in his abilities to overcome adversity stems in part from his remarkable success as the ANC's chief negotiator in constitutional talks to end apartheid. Whether it be the parlous state of relations

between the ANC and its trade union allies, or worrying questions about the scope of foreign investment, he has an abiding optimism that things will come right. He admits that he may be an idealist.

Yet there would appear to be little room for idealism in the fast and furious post-apartheid business world. One senses that his old loyalties may sometimes cloud his judgment and that he feels obliged to stand by comrades from the struggle. Against the weight of foreign investor opinion, he unequivocally refuses suggestions that fractious labour relations are a disincentive for foreign investors in South Africa.

But that as it may his optimism is infectious and his sales pitch for South Africa is as good as any other. "We stand out as well as a number of other developing countries. We've got a very stable political system, democracy continues to entrench itself in South Africa. We have an outstanding financial services sector. Our macro-economic policies are sound and applauded by the World Bank and IMF — and not only that, but by foreign governments and foreign companies."

Mr Ramaphosa says he is driven by his desire to empower and transform society. In his view, established white businessmen have begun to understand the need for closer co-operation with emerging black business and share the same objectives. He has expressed admiration for the Rupert group with which he is starting to form a close relationship.

He is the first to acknowledge the irony of his supping with the capitalist devils he once sought to bring down, or the fact that the trade unions are turning capitalist. Many have drawn on their members' investment funds — the only significant source of black capital to have survived apartheid — to set up investment companies. This has, in turn, enabled them to appoint representatives to the boards of blue chip companies.

Mr Ramaphosa is clearly thrilled by what he terms the "silent revolution". He said: "My former colleagues in the trade unions are now in business, the trade unions have formed their own companies and we co-operate with them. One could not wish for a much more exciting dispensation. This concept of black economic empowerment is exploding around the country, drawing

people in. People who were formerly comrades in arms are now comrades in business and seeing how they can create wealth, wealth on a collective basis for members of trade unions."

He says the pace of change has not moved fast enough for his liking and he urges business to become more proactive and to take advantage of the weak rand. But he argues that black economic empowerment is a much broader concept than the narrow one of setting up businesses. He points to skills, provision of housing and healthcare as empowerment vehicles.

In this context he is clearly angered by suggestions that only a small clique of black fat cats have really benefited from empowerment.

"Our detractors, in as far as implementation of giving effect to black economic empowerment, often say 'oh yes, but it is just enrichment of a few blacks', I say that is absolute rubbish because the same is not said about [Harry] Oppenheimer, who is the richest person in this country. The same is not said about white people when they accumulate wealth. It focuses on those few black people who are moving ahead and giving meaning, content to the empowerment process. It is much broader than just a Cyril Ramaphosa."

Looking ahead, Mr Ramaphosa says he will focus his attention on industrial, financial services and mining. But he is under no illusions about the extent to which he can personally push forward empowerment. "As our President says, all these things are a process. We are starting from a very low and poor base. We're starting right down there. The foundations are being laid on which the house of full empowerment may be built."

He will shortly be joined in the corporate world by Tokyo Sexwale, the outgoing premier of Gauteng province, and says his erstwhile political colleague will be a "welcome addition". As he looks to the future his prominence in the business world is certain to keep his profile firmly in the spotlight. Among others, Baroness Thatcher believes South Africa's hopes for the future depend largely on the continued well-being of Mr Ramaphosa. Apparently she even sought to dissuade him from going into business.

Will he heed the calls for his return to politics? "Well, they can keep dreaming, can't they," he said. Perhaps, though, he might consider challenging for the post-Mbeki presidency further down the line? "I am enjoying my time in politics... I mean business," he said, laughing tantalisingly.

## Past scandals have placed future of Tecs in the balance

Christine Buckley on the huge task facing Nick Reilly

Britain's Training and Enterprise Councils, which have an annual budget of £1.4 billion, are on probation. A great deal rides on how successful Nick Reilly is at the helm of the new Training Standards Council.

The appointment of Mr Reilly, who will continue as chief executive of Vauxhall Motors, was confirmed yesterday. The standards council is part of the Government's commitment to shake up the Tecs, which have been heavily criticised for poor standards and patchy performance.

Tecs, which pay private training providers through government funding, have been beset by scandal. In their seven years more than £136 million of public money has been lost in fraudulent and mismanaged payments to the private training providers.

Some payments have gone to companies that have charged for fictitious students and mythical exams as an unwieldy and virtually unaccountable locally based system went unchecked.

Mr Reilly must set out to remove poor performers. He is committed to raising the standards of training provision and believes that the state of training, while good in parts, is putting the UK at a competitive disadvantage against other European countries.

Only a few months ago the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE), which funds the Tecs, was criticised by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) for making £8.6 million worth of "incorrect and uncertain" payments to training providers in 1995-96.

The PAC, the government spending watchdog, berated the DfEE over the apparent ease with which training money can be siphoned off by unscrupulous training providers, leaving Tecs with rocketing bills and would-be students without education.

The DfEE, arguing that effective checks on the system could prove too costly to be worthwhile, admitted that it is "difficult to prevent individuals who wished to perpetrate irregularities from doing so". It said there is "obvious scope for abuse in a system involving 74 Tecs, some 5,000 training providers and 200,000 locations".

The last catalogue of irregularities compiled by the PAC included two "deplorable" cases involving Cumbria Tec and County Durham Tec. In total

£381,000 had been overpaid by the DfEE.

These cases followed a steady stream of scandals. In April last year a senior manager at Sight and Sound, a training provider in Greenwich, South London, was sacked after the discovery of false claims for hundreds of thousands of pounds charged for students who had not taken NVQs. Also last year, police raided the offices of Centrex, a training provider that serves the motor industry.

Three years ago the South Thames Tec went into liquidation after settling vast and unsubstantiated bills from some training providers. Its demise left the DfEE nursing a bill of £8.4 million.

Training fiddles go back to the early days of the schemes. In 1991 Labour pressed the Government to investigate how much Tecs cash was falling to fraudulent schemes. This followed the revelation of an internal memo from the Department of Employment to the Tecs, saying that money was being sought for weeks of training although providers had told the Tecs that students were absent.

The validity of NVQs has also been thrown into question. A National Institute for Economic and Social Research report two years ago doubted that NVQs could be trusted when payment depends on outcomes.

Pressure will also remain on the DfEE to keep a keener check on fraud in a central pool of data. Bizarrely the department began keeping a record of investigations as late as 1995. The PAC said in its last report that it was concerned that only one case had been referred to the police. The DfEE, which has 20 cases on its books at present, said that many irregular payments transpire to be the result of incompetence rather than actionable fraud.

Tecs are being asked to do more with less money. Their funding has been cut from the £2 billion the programme started with in 1990 to £1.5 billion in the last financial year. In the current year it is funded by just £1.4 billion. The cuts have come as the Government reigns back its budget but also in parallel with falling unemployment.

With the challenge of improving standards with reduced funding they will be under greater pressure to operate more efficiently. Stemming the amount of cash that funds mythical training in fraudulent claims would help a little.

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## Knight's move

THEY all bounce eventually, even if some bounce higher than others. The latest to emerge in the real world from the class of 1997 who graduated with two Ds and an E and the option to retake in five years is Angela Knight. She used to be in charge of banks and building societies at the Treasury, and she will next month take over as full-time chief executive of the snappily titled APCIMS, the trade body for private client stock brokers.

A worthy job, but not hugely

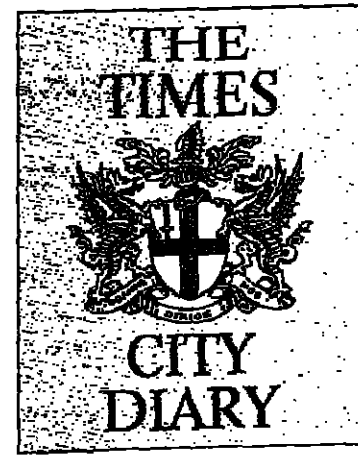
prestigious, surely? Knight has founded two successful specialist engineering companies, and what better time to go for third time lucky? "I sold one engineering company. The other is run by my ex-husband," she says shortly. "I do know a lot about the business, it's true. Having been in the financial field for the past couple of years, I reckoned I would continue in that field rather than go back."

I suspect, although Knight is not saying anything, that the salary offered by APCIMS might be considerably higher than her predecessor, Geoffrey Turner, enjoyed. These are trying times for private brokers, with super-SIB looming on the horizon. They need all the help they can get.

BA's woes at Heathrow are scarcely terminal, so to speak, but a small ad in the Surrey Advertiser catches my eye. "Funerals in the traditional manner with attention to detail." Thus the blurb for Robert Ayling Funeral Services of Guildford.

### Vive le hack

NICE to see a journalist do well for once, even a French one. I am prob-



bly not allowed to say that, but there is nothing like the first day back at work to engender a certain misanthropy. BZW has found a new head for its Paris office, to replace Jean-Louis Vinciguerra, who went off to run Crédit Agricole's operations in Indonesia — and what did he do wrong, then? The new man is Philippe Villin, for ten years head of Le Figaro, France's equivalent to The Times. He joins from his own investment boutique.

M Villin is a youthful 42. He graduated from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, which puts him at the heart of the French establishment, and has spent time at the Treasury and at France Telecom. He is

probably rich — I hadn't the heart to ask. He was described to me as "very French, very tall, very elegant, very charming". Makes you sick, doesn't it?

### Wales sighting

CHARLES ANNANDALE, European head of derivative sales at Société Générale, was recently sighted heading west on the M4 with a rather shabby caravan in tow. Barbados, perhaps, after a long swim, or Palm Beach? Oh, the shame of it. Wales.

Annandale, who moved to SocGen last year on an undisclosed but enormous package, is now back at his desk, and colleagues are planning a whip-round for next summer, to pay for a supply of knotted handkerchiefs and a complete set of forearm tattoos.

HAPPY days at the Mirror Group. Monty, alias its chief executive David Montgomery, is finally taking a holiday. Ten days, no less, the longest his terrified subordinates have been deprived of his peculiar style of management charm since he arrived in 1992. Alas, we know not where he is going. Tuscan seems a good bet. Nor yet can we say whether Monty will be packing his bucket and spade. And woe betide the paparazzo who trains his Nikon on the Monty villa. The rich and famous are entitled to their privacy.

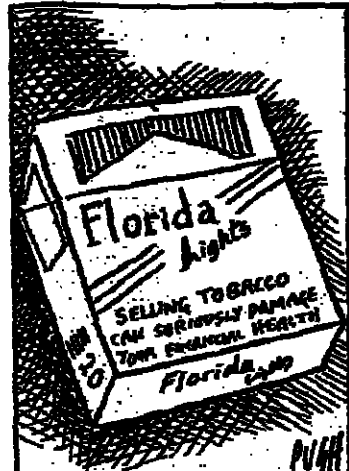
### Fair shares

GREG TOMKINS, sorry, I mean Greg Hutchings, has long insisted that shares in the conglomerate he dominates are undervalued. But shares in Hutchings, sorry Tomkins, have under-performed. Now Hutchings and two other directors are playing double or quits. Shares taken as part of 1994's bonus are going into Tomkins' share matching scheme. This pays out one extra share for each still held in two years — providing directors don't sell in the interim.

MARTIN WALLER



Hutchings: double or quits





[illegible]

...unmoving when hopelessly **Background:** My father's a



## Shares retreat in thin trading

**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

# Shares retreat in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Volume	Price	Yield	P/E
100.00	99.50	100.00	99.50	-0.50	1000	100.00	5.00%	20.00
101.00	100.50	101.00	100.50	-0.50	1000	101.00	5.00%	20.00
102.00	101.50	102.00	101.50	-0.50	1000	102.00	5.00%	20.00
103.00	102.50	103.00	102.50	-0.50	1000	103.00	5.00%	20.00
104.00	103.50	104.00	103.50	-0.50	1000	104.00	5.00%	20.00
105.00	104.50	105.00	104.50	-0.50	1000	105.00	5.00%	20.00
106.00	105.50	106.00	105.50	-0.50	1000	106.00	5.00%	20.00
107.00	106.50	107.00	106.50	-0.50	1000	107.00	5.00%	20.00
108.00	107.50	108.00	107.50	-0.50	1000	108.00	5.00%	20.00
109.00	108.50	109.00	108.50	-0.50	1000	109.00	5.00%	20.00
110.00	109.50	110.00	109.50	-0.50	1000	110.00	5.00%	20.00
111.00	110.50	111.00	110.50	-0.50	1000	111.00	5.00%	20.00
112.00	111.50	112.00	111.50	-0.50	1000	112.00	5.00%	20.00
113.00	112.50	113.00	112.50	-0.50	1000	113.00	5.00%	20.00
114.00	113.50	114.00	113.50	-0.50	1000	114.00	5.00%	20.00
115.00	114.50	115.00	114.50	-0.50	1000	115.00	5.00%	20.00
116.00	115.50	116.00	115.50	-0.50	1000	116.00	5.00%	20.00
117.00	116.50	117.00	116.50	-0.50	1000	117.00	5.00%	20.00
118.00	117.50	118.00	117.50	-0.50	1000	118.00	5.00%	20.00
119.00	118.50	119.00	118.50	-0.50	1000	119.00	5.00%	20.00
120.00	119.50	120.00	119.50	-0.50	1000	120.00	5.00%	20.00
121.00	120.50	121.00	120.50	-0.50	1000	121.00	5.00%	20.00
122.00	121.50	122.00	121.50	-0.50	1000	122.00	5.00%	20.00
123.00	122.50	123.00	122.50	-0.50	1000	123.00	5.00%	20.00
124.00	123.50	124.00	123.50	-0.50	1000	124.00	5.00%	20.00
125.00	124.50	125.00	124.50	-0.50	1000	125.00	5.00%	20.00
126.00	125.50	126.00	125.50	-0.50	1000	126.00	5.00%	20.00
127.00	126.50	127.00	126.50	-0.50	1000	127.00	5.00%	20.00
128.00	127.50	128.00	127.50	-0.50	1000	128.00	5.00%	20.00
129.00	128.50	129.00	128.50	-0.50	1000	129.00	5.00%	20.00
130.00	129.50	130.00	129.50	-0.50	1000	130.00	5.00%	20.00
131.00	130.50	131.00	130.50	-0.50	1000	131.00	5.00%	20.00
132.00	131.50	132.00	131.50	-0.50	1000	132.00	5.00%	20.00
133.00	132.50	133.00	132.50	-0.50	1000	133.00	5.00%	20.00
134.00	133.50	134.00	133.50	-0.50	1000	134.00	5.00%	20.00
135.00	134.50	135.00	134.50	-0.50	1000	135.00	5.00%	20.00
136.00	135.50	136.00	135.50	-0.50	1000	136.00	5.00%	20.00
137.00	136.50	137.00	136.50	-0.50	1000	137.00	5.00%	20.00
138.00	137.50	138.00	137.50	-0.50	1000	138.00	5.00%	20.00
139.00	138.50	139.00	138.50	-0.50	1000	139.00	5.00%	20.00
140.00	139.50	140.00	139.50	-0.50	1000	140.00	5.00%	20.00
141.00	140.50	141.00	140.50	-0.50	1000	141.00	5.00%	20.00
142.00	141.50	142.00	141.50	-0.50	1000	142.00	5.00%	20.00
143.00	142.50	143.00	142.50	-0.50	1000	143.00	5.00%	20.00
144.00	143.50	144.00	143.50	-0.50	1000	144.00	5.00%	20.00
145.00	144.50	145.00	144.50	-0.50	1000	145.00	5.00%	20.00
146.00	145.50	146.00	145.50	-0.50	1000	146.00	5.00%	20.00
147.00	146.50	147.00	146.50	-0.50	1000	147.00	5.00%	20.00
148.00	147.50	148.00	147.50	-0.50	1000	148.00	5.00%	20.00
149.00	148.50	149.00	148.50	-0.50	1000	149.00	5.00%	20.00
150.00	149.50	150.00	149.50	-0.50	1000	150.00	5.00%	20.00
151.00	150.50	151.00	150.50	-0.50	1000	151.00	5.00%	20.00
152.00	151.50	152.00	151.50	-0.50	1000	152.00	5.00%	20.00
153.00	152.50	153.00	152.50	-0.50	1000	153.00	5.00%	20.00
154.00	153.50	154.00	153.50	-0.50	1000	154.00	5.00%	20.00
155.00	154.50	155.00	154.50	-0.50	1000	155.00	5.00%	20.00
156.00	155.50	156.00	155.50	-0.50	1000	156.00	5.00%	20.00
157.00	156.50	157.00	156.50	-0.50	1000	157.00	5.00%	20.00
158.00	157.50	158.00	157.50	-0.50	1000	158.00	5.00%	20.00
159.00	158.50	159.00	158.50	-0.50	1000	159.00	5.00%	20.00
160.00	159.50	160.00	159.50	-0.50	1000	160.00	5.00%	20.00
161.00	160.50	161.00	160.50	-0.50	1000	161.00	5.00%	20.00
162.00	161.50	162.00	161.50	-0.50	1000	162.00	5.00%	20.00
163.00	162.50	163.00	162.50	-0.50	1000	163.00	5.00%	20.00
164.00	163.50	164.00	163.50	-0.50	1000	164.00	5.00%	20.00
165.00	164.50	165.00	164.50	-0.50	1000	165.00	5.00%	20.00
166.00	165.50	166.00	165.50	-0.50	1000	166.00	5.00%	20.00
167.00	166.50	167.00	166.50	-0.50	1000	167.00	5.00%	20.00
168.00	167.50	168.00	167.50	-0.50	1000	168.00	5.00%	20.00
169.00	168.50	169.00	168.50	-0.50	1000	169.00	5.00%	20.00
170.00	169.50	170.00	169.50	-0.50	1000	170.00	5.00%	20.00
171.00	170.50	171.00	170.50	-0.50	1000	171.00	5.00%	20.00
172.00	171.50	172.00	171.50	-0.50	1000	172.00	5.00%	20.00
173.00	172.50	173.00	172.50	-0.50	1000	173.00	5.00%	20.00
174.00	173.50	174.00	173.50	-0.50	1000	174.00	5.00%	20.00
175.00	174.50	175.00	174.50	-0.50	1000	175.00	5.00%	20.00
176.00	175.50	176.00	175.50	-0.50	1000	176.00	5.00%	20.00
177.00	176.50	177.00	176.50	-0.50	1000	177.00	5.00%	20.00
178.00	177.50	178.00	177.50	-0.50	1000	178.00	5.00%	20.00
179.00	178.50	179.00	178.50	-0.50	1000	179.00	5.00%	20.00
180.00	179.50	180.00	179.50	-0.50	1000	180.00	5.00%	20.00
181.00	180.50	181.00	180.50	-0.50	1000	181.00	5.00%	20.00
182.00	181.50	182.00	181.50	-0.50	1000	182.00	5.00%	20.00
183.00	182.50	183.00	182.50	-0.50	1000	183.00	5.00%	20.00
184.00	183.50	184.00	183.50	-0.50	1000	184.00	5.00%	20.00
185.00	184.50	185.00	184.50	-0.50	1000	185.00	5.00%	20.00
186.00	185.50	186.00	185.50	-0.50	1000	186.00	5.00%	20.00
187.00	186.50	187.00	186.50	-0.50	1000	187.00	5.00%	20.00
188.00	187.50	188.00	187.50	-0.50	1000	188.00	5.00%	20.00
189.00	188.50	189.00	188.50	-0.50	1000	189.00	5.00%	20.00
190.00	189.50	190.00	189.50	-0.50	1000	190.00	5.00%	20.00
191.00	190.50	191.00	190.50	-0.50	1000	191.00	5.00%	20.00
192.00	191.50	192.00	191.50	-0.50	1000	192.00	5.00%	20.00
193.00	192.50	193.00	192.50	-0.50	1000	193.00	5.00%	20.00
194.00	193.50	194.00	193.50	-0.50	1000	194.00	5.00%	20.00
195.00	194.50	195.00	194.50	-0.50	1000	195.00	5.00%	20.00
196.00	195.50	196.00	195.50	-0.50	1000	196.00	5.00%	20.00
197.00	196.50	197.00	196.50	-0.50	1000	197.00	5.00%	20.00
198.00	197.50	198.00	197.50	-0.50	1000	198.00	5.00%	20.00
199.00	198.50	199.00	198.50	-0.50	1000	199.00	5.00%	20.00
200.00	199.50	200.00	199.50	-0.50	1000	200.00	5.00%	20.00

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High	Low	Open	Close	Change	Volume	Price	Yield	P/E
100.00	99.50	100.00	99.50	-0.50	1000	100.00	5.00%	20.00
101.00	100.50	101.00	100.50	-0.50	1000	101.00	5.00%	20.00
102.00	101.50	102.00	101.50	-0.50	1000	102.00	5.00%	20.00
103.00	102.50	103.00	102.50	-0.50	1000	103.00	5.00%	20.00
104.00	103.50	104.00	103.50	-0.50	1000	104.00	5.00%	20.00
105.00	104.50	105.00	104.50	-0.50	1000	105.00	5.00%	20.00
106.00	105.50	106.00	105.50	-0.50	1000	106.00	5.00%	20.00
107.00	106.50	107.00	106.50	-0.50	1000	107.00	5.00%	20.00
108.00	107.50	108.00	107.50	-0.50	1000	108.00	5.00%	20.00
109.00	108.50	109.00	108.50	-0.50	1000	109.00	5.00%	20.00
110.00	109.50	110.00	109.50	-0.50	1000	110.00	5.00%	20.00
111.00	110.50	111.00	110.50	-0.50	1000	111.00	5.00%	20.00
112.00	111.50	112.00	111.50	-0.50	1000	112.00	5.00%	20.00
113.00	112.50	113.00	112.50	-0.50	1000	113.00	5.00%	20.00
114.00	113.50	114.00	113.50	-0.50	1000	114.00	5.00%	20.00
115.00	114.50	115.00	114.50	-0.50	1000	115.00	5.00%	20.00
116.00	115.50	116.00	115.50	-0.50	1000	116.00	5.00%	20.00
117.00	116.50	117.00	116.50	-0.50	1000	117.00	5.00%	20.00
118.00	117.50	118.00	117.50	-0.50	1000	118.00	5.00%	20.00
119.00	118.50	119.00	118.50	-0.50	1000	119.00	5.00%	20.00
120.00	119.50	120.00	119.50	-0.50	1000	120.00	5.00%	20.00
121.00	120.50	121.00	120.50	-0.50	1000	121.00	5.00%	20.00
122.00	121.50	122.00	121.50	-0.50	1000	122.00	5.00%	20.00
123.00	122.50	123.00	122.50	-0.50	1000	123.00	5.00%	20.00
124.00	123.50	124.00	123.50	-0.50	1000	124.0		



DEGREE vacancies in science are published here for students chasing courses still available at universities and colleges this autumn.

The listings have been fully updated since they first appeared in *The Times* on Thursday, taking account of those which have been filled but also many unexpected vacancies just announced.

There have been few changes in the science listings in the past 24 hours. New vacancies are being advertised at North London University, but they are more than balanced by withdrawals at Plymouth, Birmingham and King's College London.

The listings will be published until the end of this week. They are also available on our website, at <http://www.the-times.co.uk>.

\* Courses are part of modular schemes in a variety of combinations. All other courses are identified by codes used in the Ucas handbook.

#### AGRICULTURE/AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Aberdeen, D21, D22, D23, D24, D25, D26, D27, D28, D29, D30, D31, D32, D33, D34, D35, D36, D37, D38, D39, D40, D41, D42, D43, D44, D45, D46, D47, D48, D49, D50, D51, D52, D53, D54, D55, D56, D57, D58, D59, D60, D61, D62, D63, D64, D65, D66, D67, D68, D69, D70, D71, D72, D73, D74, D75, D76, D77, D78, D79, D80, D81, D82, D83, D84, D85, D86, D87, D88, D89, D90, D91, D92, D93, D94, D95, D96, D97, D98, D99, D100, D101, D102, D103, D104, D105, D106, D107, D108, D109, D110, D111, D112, D113, D114, D115, D116, D117, D118, D119, D120, D121, D122, D123, D124, D125, D126, D127, D128, D129, D130, D131, D132, D133, D134, D135, D136, D137, D138, D139, D140, D141, D142, D143, D144, D145, D146, D147, D148, D149, D150, D151, D152, D153, D154, D155, D156, D157, D158, D159, D160, D161, D162, D163, D164, D165, D166, D167, D168, D169, D170, D171, D172, D173, D174, D175, D176, D177, D178, D179, D180, D181, D182, D183, D184, D185, D186, D187, D188, D189, D190, D191, D192, D193, D194, D195, D196, D197, D198, 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It is essential to have sterling communication skills, shorthand and an analytical mind for the drafting and preparation of reports, minutes and presentations. Strong computer skills will therefore be necessary. Familiarity with marketing would be a distinct advantage.

This is an opportunity for an experienced PA with a keen interest in marketing to take on a varied and responsible position within an interesting and stimulating environment.

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To apply, please write with your CV and a covering letter quoting ref no R/114/97 to Sarah Bourne, Personnel Department, English Heritage, Room 409, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB. Closing date: 10th September 1997. Interviews will be held 2nd October 1997.

Unfortunately we are unable to reply individually to all applicants. If you have not heard from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has not been successful.

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ENGLISH HERITAGE

## PLANET 24 PA to the Managing Director

Planet 24 is one of the largest and most successful independent television production companies in the UK. Our business interests are expanding and diversifying and now encompass both television and radio in the UK, USA and Eastern Europe.

The Managing Director needs a senior professional PA who understands the needs of a busy executive and can successfully co-ordinate the administrative support required by someone who has a number of different business interests.

The successful applicant will already have experience of working at a senior level and should have excellent communication skills and good word processing/spreadsheet knowledge and experience. **Shorthand is essential.**

Applications should be made in writing to the address below, enclosing a full CV and contact details. Closing date is Monday 8 September 1997.

Personnel Department  
Planet 24  
The Planet Building, Thames Quay  
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If this sounds like you and you can remain calm and efficient under pressure plus you want to join a progressive company with an excellent benefits package, please call our recruitment consultant.

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CV's can be faxed to:  
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This demanding position calls for a professional person who understands loyalty, integrity and diplomacy and is willing to work long hours. The person appointed will require to be totally committed. A thorough working knowledge of Microsoft Office 97 is a pre-requisite. Neither age nor experience are relevant; energy, dedication and ability are.

The salary will be commensurate with the responsibilities. Other benefits will be advised to interview.

If you are ambitious and looking for a real challenge, send your letter of application, in your own handwriting, together with a detailed curriculum vitae, to The Registrar, Delegation House, 30 Hart Street, Henley on Thames, RG9 2AL, no later than Tuesday, 2 September 1997. Final interviews will be held on Tuesday, 9 September 1997.

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Recruitment

DATA by Design

10 Darnley Road

London W2 2EP

No agencies please

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We are looking for a Secretary to work in the House of Lords Parliament Office starting in October working from 3.00 p.m. - 10.15 a.m. on the rising of the House, nominally 11.30 p.m. (Mondays to Thursdays) and from 10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. on Fridays.

The main duties will be data entry and desktop publishing operations relating to the publication of the formal Minutes, Notices and Orders of the Day of the House of Lords.

Candidates should have a minimum of 5 GCSEs (including English Language) at Grades A, B or C or equivalent and recognised secretarial skills. Knowledge and experience of Windows and WordPerfect 6.1 are essential and experience of desktop publishing is desirable. As the postholder will be responsible for creating text for print a high degree of accuracy is called for.

The pay scale ranges from £13,361 - £18,810 per annum. Holiday entitlement is 6 weeks per annum + public and bank holidays. Holidays have to be taken when the House is in recess.

For further details and an application form please contact 0171-219 6630 (answering machine) or write to the Establishment Office, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW. Completed forms should be returned by 4 September 1997.

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Required to work in the Head Office of an expanding national fast food chain based in North West London.

You will have several years' experience working at director level and have a thorough knowledge of office practices, including word processing packages, shorthand and strong organisational skills.

This is a key role within a small, friendly team and a flexible approach is desirable.

Salary will be competitive but subject to age and experience.

Applicants should send enclosing a CV to The Personnel Manager, 9 Central Business Centre, Great Central Way, London NW10 0UR or fax their details on 0181 830 2427.

## Fenwick Elliott Solicitors School Leaver

We are looking for a bright hardworking school leaver to join our team. The successful applicant will be required to take part in a number of varied office duties.

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Tel: 0171 956 9354 Fax: 0171 956 9355

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## LE BRASSEUR J TICKLE

SOLICITORS AND PRIVY COUNCIL AGENTS

## Experienced Legal Secretaries

The Company and Commercial Department in an expanding Law practice requires 2 computer literate secretaries - 1 with extensive commercial experience, 1 with commercial litigation experience. Both placements are full-time permanent positions. Good knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1 an advantage. professional, enthusiastic approach essential. Non-Smoker. Competitive salary, friendly firm, modern prestigious offices in Covent Garden.

Please apply in writing to: Personnel Manager

Le Brasseur J Tickle Drury House

34-43 Russell Street LONDON WC2B 5HA

(No Agencies)

## PARTNER'S SECRETARY

An experienced and confident secretary is required for our extremely busy and hard working Partner's Office. The successful candidate will be responsible for all secretarial duties, including typing, filing, and general office management. The position offers a high level of responsibility and a competitive salary.

You must have an excellent command of the English Language, accurate and fast typist, together with good communication skills. A high level of computer literacy is essential. You should have the confidence and diplomacy to deal with high profile clients, be able to demonstrate initiative, have a proactive and efficient approach to work and deal creatively with the modern computer technology.

You will also need to be enthusiastic, flexible and have the ability to remain calm when under pressure, with a suitable sense of humour.

If you feel you fit the above description, please write with a full CV and a letter of salary expectations to:

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Personnel Manager,  
12 New Fetter Lane,  
London, EC4A 3DF.

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up to £20K package

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## PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Small and vibrant investment company with varied interests spanning the fields of fine arts, real estate, property, and sports management seek a young personal assistant to the Managing Director at its Mayfair offices. The position will involve some travel, computer literacy and a willingness to learn a huge and varied range of tasks. Good sense of humour, a necessary and an interest in art.

Salary negotiable starting £20,000

Applications & CV's to Box No 6842

## PA/SECRETARY

TRAVEL COMPANY

£17-18,000

Excellent opportunity assisting very busy Director with client liaison, presentation work and attending meetings, drafting etc. Good audio/typing skills, WWP, Powerpoint etc.

**SALES SEC/PA**

TOP LONDON HOTEL

£16,000 NEG

Varied, interesting role assisting Sales Director. Lots of organisational duties + extensive client liaison. Audio/typing 55 wpm, good WP knowledge.

Call Alison or Sally on 0171 709 3700 or fax 0171 481 1115 or PM 0850 978 888 (A&P)

## PA ONE TO ONE - £18,000-£20,000 SW19

Our Client, a progressive group of Companies operating at prestigious offices Central Wimbledon. As part of a drive to expand this leading firm, the MD seeks a PA to assist in new projects and research areas, as well as a full PA role, confidentiality diary and planning. You would need to take on own projects reporting back to MD in meetings, and also give occasional secretarial support requiring some shorthand. This role calls for a highly organised PA with exp at Director level, enthusiasm and a high energy level.

Contact Carol Wisby  
Top Flight Secretaries  
No 1 The Broadway  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 1PS (Rec Con)

## WP SUPERVISOR

£25,000 CITY

Excellent opportunity for a WP Supervisor who is looking for their next career move. You will need to have worked in a law firm and have good experience of Word for Windows. There are 3 shifts in operation, this one being 7.30pm - 4pm. Duties include logging and allocation of work, quality control, staff management and recharging systems. Excellent benefits on offer. please call

ANGELA on 0171 550 7000

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# Crème de la Crème

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0171 782 7586

## PROACTIVE £25,000 neg

As executive assistant to the senior partner of this financial organisation, you are responsible for ensuring that decisions made at internal committee meetings are actioned. Involvement guaranteed for a senior level graduate PA with committee experience.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
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## PARTNER'S PA to £24,000

If you are organised, unfappable, flexible and unphased by pressure then you are exactly what this International Legal Company is looking for to support a Partner within finance. 80 wpm shorthand and spreadsheet knowledge required.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## EXEC ASSISTANT £30,000

A high profile and involved position where you will offer full support to this senior executive. 10% secretarial work with your own areas of responsibility and liaison at the highest level. Banking or finance experience at board level an advantage.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
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## VICTORIA £23,000

Plus gym membership. You will be based in the superb offices of this international company which really values its staff. You will be encouraged to use your initiative in this true PA role. 80wpm shorthand / 55wpm typing.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## YOUNG PA £25,000

Involving and challenging role awaits experienced PA working with entrepreneurial Managing Partner. Suit polished professional with effective interpersonal skills who is comfortable in a high profile environment. 55wpm typing.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

**Elizabeth Hunt**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## PA

City Bank  
to £24,000 & bens

Highly proactive secretary required to work for this newly promoted executive. The combination of your superb organisational skills, the ability to juggle your priorities and handle a heavy workload will ensure your success. You will be fully involved in all areas of the business. Skills: W4W and Powerpoint.

Knowledge of a European language is essential. A-levels preferred. Hours: 8.30-6.30. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171 390 7000.



**Crone Corkill**  
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PLUS TEMP TO PERM OPPORTUNITIES

For stimulating, rewarding and interesting assignments at rates you cannot afford to refuse. We currently need junior, term and PA secretaries to cover long & short term assignments (great overtime opportunities) and have a variety of Temp to Perm positions offering superb potential with some of the biggest names in the City. If you have excellent secretarial skills and a flexible, lively personality call us today. Call: Nicole 0171 377 5500 or Fax: 0171 377 5580



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GUARANTEED £12 P/H

If you have at least 2 years recent legal experience and 60wpm audio typing, we will guarantee you £12 per hour for assignments in law firms in the West End or City.

We offer:

- Immediate assignments
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£16K to £19K - SW1

The company: Working for an entrepreneur with interests in fine art and property development. The role: Full PA/secretarial/property management duties including diaries, travel, book keeping, invoicing, telephone liaison. The essentials: Win 2 years' secretarial experience, 50+ wpm typing, W4W and Excel essential, good level of numeracy, flexible, professional who enjoys working in a small office environment.

Please telephone 0171 494 4466 or 0171 494 4469

CITY OFFICE: 0171 233 4684 Fax: 0171 233 4684

**GORDON-YATES**

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## SECRETARY TO MD RECORD COMPANY

£18,500

MD of small established Record & Artist Management Company seeks a 'right-hand'. Age is immaterial, but would ideally suit an experienced Secretary 35+ who enjoys working on their own and handling the full MD's MD in an extensive travel. Main skills required are shorthand, W4W, abundance of common sense, the ability to screen calls, deal with artists, run the office and assist to MD's personal work. If you like a really varied role then please call Sandy B. on CV to

0171 494 4466 or 0171 494 4469

CITY OFFICE: 0171 233 4684 Fax: 0171 233 4684

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## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

International software company

seeks administrator to help run a new office in the City.

Responsibilities will include everything from reception duties and looking after visitors to organising travel arrangements and managing office supplies. An organised, flexible, 'can do' approach is important.

There is a leading edge financial solutions provider whose clients include some of the world's most successful organisations. The company employs 60 people and has offices across Europe.

The package offered will reflect the quality of the candidate.

Please send a CV with covering letter and salary details to Tom Coombes,

Treasury Management, 1

Northumberland Avenue, Trafalgar Square,

London, WC2N 5BW

or e-mail tom.coombes@trema.com

www.trema.com

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## PA IN Thames Valley

£18K + benefits

The company: A very young, stable and very progressive IT & Marketing company based in High Wycombe. The role: Working as PA to the CEO and CFO in a busy, varied and challenging location. The essentials: Excellent PA skills, 3 years' secretarial/PA experience, ideally in a plc. Bright, efficient, highly IT literate with a knowledge of the Internet, German useful. Most importantly, a fun character with a great sense of humour.

Please telephone 0171 494 4466 or 0171 494 4469

CITY OFFICE: 0171 233 4684 Fax: 0171 233 4684

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## FRENCH BI-LINGUAL PA TO FINANCE DIRECTOR

£22,000 + BONUS + BUPA

Blue Chip clients seek a polished PA/Secretary with fluent French to work with their Finance Director. This highly administrative role includes organising complex international travel and extensive travel itineraries and requires good W4W and Excel. If you are energetic, have 55+ wpm and wish to move into a large, prestigious company, then call us now - previous financial or banking experience essential. Great perks including early review, bonus and BUPA!

Call Sandy now for interview or CV to:

0171 494 4466 or 0171 494 4469

CITY OFFICE: 0171 233 4684 Fax: 0171 233 4684

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## 1st opportunity IN Marketing

£16,800 - W6

The role: Providing secretarial/admin support to UK MD and co-ordinating all marketing activities. Scope for this to develop into a full time marketing role. The essentials: Office experience, marketing degree or experience in a marketing department, minimum of 5 years' experience, W4W and Excel essential, Powerpoint useful, enthusiastic, flexible and a professional approach.

Please telephone 0171 494 4466 or 0171 494 4469

CITY OFFICE: 0171 233 4684 Fax: 0171 233 4684

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## HOUSEHOLD NAME

£28,000 package

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join this well known organisation during a period of extensive growth. Working as PA to the newly appointed Chairman, your role will involve extensive communication at the highest level, organising international travel itineraries and the management of a hectic diary. The successful candidate must be a team player, unobtrusively presented and have a minimum of five years' experience. Shorthand 90/50 typing. Please call our West End office now.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 287 7788

**Angela Mortimer**

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## CITY OPPORTUNITIES

HR

£27,000

The Main Board HR Director of a leading City Institution requires an Executive PA with previous Board Level experience to provide senior level support.

Trading Floor

£25,000

A variety of hectic and challenging positions in some of London's busiest and most profitable departments. An ability to thrive under pressure is essential.

Road Shows

£20,000

Vacancy for a team secretary to co-ordinate and organise roadshows and conferences for a major investment bank.

Management Consultancy

£18,000

This blue-chip company requires a flexible, team-player who can quickly adapt to changing responsibilities, to work with a dynamic and successful project team.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

**Angela Mortimer**

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## PA TO DIRECTOR AND HOUSE DEPARTMENT

Of this lively and prestigious Knightsbridge Estate Agents. Well spoken, computer literate and able to deal with the public required. Salary: Negotiable.

CV's in the first instance to:

Amanda Craig, Hampton's International,

168 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge,

London, SW3 1HW. Tel: 0171 584 2044.

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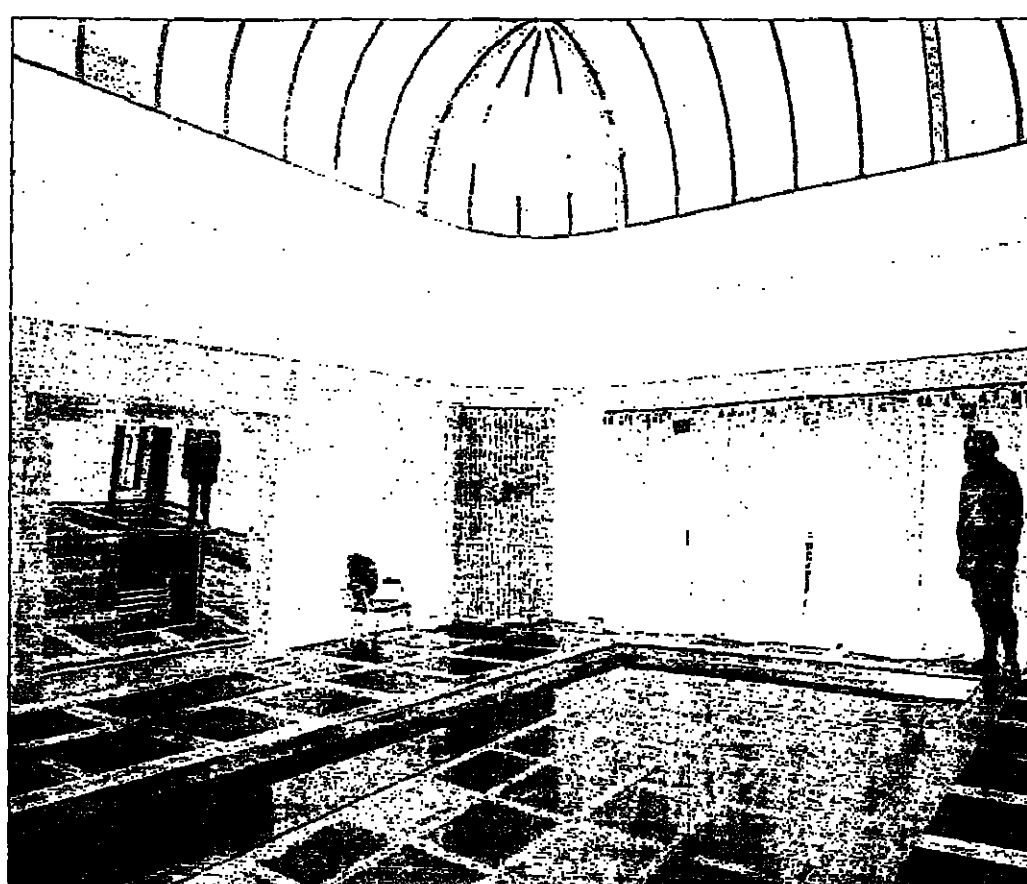
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Superb homes, grand addresses: Palace Green, left, not far from Kensington Palace, on sale for about £5 million, and the ballroom-swimming pool room of 1 Cambridge Gate, yours for £15 million

**Amanda Loose** on the buyers, rich beyond imagination, who seek properties most of us can but dream of

## Millionaire trophies

The lower echelons of the London market may fall quiet over the summer vacation, but that is the time when buyers with big money to spend emerge. The pool of such buyers is a very small one. Grand trophy houses are what they crave, and as the rich seem to get richer, the houses they seek become ever grander. And this season more international millionaires than ever are looking to scoop such a prize.

Brian D'Arcy Clark of Chesterfields confirms that most of the market goes to sleep at this time of year. But the very top end carries on through August.

Louise Egerton of Lane Fox in Chelsea says: "This market is almost climate-driven. Middle Eastern buyers are out in force at the moment, avoiding scorching temperatures at home, and from September 20 to December 10, the Euro buyers, at present in Tuscany or on their yachts in the South of France, will arrive, as will the Americans, now holidaying in Nantucket. We have more millionaire buyers on our books than ever before."

Richard Crosthwaite of Knight Frank says: "More very wealthy buyers are looking here, and the demand for really large houses and apartments is high. There are many more really rich people around than there were five years ago, and our sales of houses worth more than £2.5 million seem to increase each year."

Charles Ellingworth of the buying

agency Property Vision says: "A million pounds won't even buy a six-bedroom family house in Kensington. If you want a large house with garden, think in terms of £3 million." And that is the lower end of the multimillion-pound range.

Nicholas Beane of Beane Pearce says: "The top end of the market tends to divide into three bands: up to £3 million; £3 million to £8 million, and more than £8 million, where the sky seems to be the limit."

Already this summer, Chestertons Residential in Kensington has acquired two houses costing £3 million for UK buyers. Beane Pearce has just had three inquiries for houses up to £10 million in Eaton Square, a departure from the norm, according to Nicholas Beane, who reckons that inquiries for flats in this area have until now outweighed those for grand houses.

The developer Anthony Lassman has also noticed this. "We are seeing a return to a bygone age of grand London living, a style to which very wealthy overseas buyers are used," he says. "People are more lavish now with their use of space, wanting big rooms, dressing areas and

bedrooms with private sitting rooms and staff accommodation."

Mr Crosthwaite knows this sort of buyer well. "Houses which were a satisfactory size three to four years ago are no longer large enough," he says. "Families are getting richer and bigger, and have more staff travelling with them."

"There is a return to the trophy house, a second age of grandeur, but such houses are no longer just playthings or family homes. They have a role in the way international businessmen operate, being used for business meetings and entertaining, as well as showcases for works of art. However rich you think such people are, many are wealthier than one's wildest imaginings."

So what will the very well-heeled house hunter be looking at? One of the first stops will surely be 1 Cambridge Gate, a recently refurbished terrace house in Regent's Park, carrying a £15 million price tag. Built in 1875, the whole terrace has recently been restored, under the eye of Neil Powling of PDM. A 40-room mansion, it has a swimming pool area that turns into a ballroom, eight bedroom suites and its

interior has been designed by some of the top names, including Teska Kennedy and Joanna Wood. It is for sale through De Groot Colles.

Near by, 1 Cumberland Place is for sale for more than £7.5 million with a 69-year lease through Knight Frank. The Grade I listed house, built in 1820 under the direction of John Nash, includes an indoor swimming pool and first-floor ballroom, a must-have for the best kind of corporate entertaining.

Heading south, 19 and 23 Upper Brook Street in Mayfair beckon. Like Cambridge Gate, they have been converted from offices back to single residences and are on the market for £8.75 million and £4.75 million, with 101 and 105-year leases respectively. No 19 — Grade II listed — was built in 1737 and has been home to Lady Herbert, daughter of the Earl of Pembroke. It has a grand first-floor drawing room, which leads to a mahogany-panelled library. Grade II listed No 23, built in 1742, is equally magnificent.

In Belgravia, Knight Frank is selling the Grade II listed 29 Chesham Place

for £10 million. Built by Thomas Cubitt, it was also used for many years as offices, but has retained its grand, black, fluted Ionic columns in the main drawing room, and the Neo-Classical folly added by Lord Waterford.

No 112 Eaton Square is for sale through Savills at £12 million. The Grade II\* listed house, also designed by Cubitt, has been occupied by the same family for the past 70 years. Savills is also wanting offers around £5 million for 6 Palace Green in Kensington, which has a four-and-a-half-year lease. Ideal, perhaps, for buyers who want to live near Kensington Palace.

For those wanting a less conventional address, The Vineyard, in Hurlingham Road, Fulham — for sale through Aylesford for £6 million — may be the answer. Built around 1860, the Grade II listed house stands in just under an acre of walled gardens, including a woodland walk. Home to the 1st Lord Beaverbrook from 1918, it has remained in the family ever since.

Perhaps the most pricey of the pick of the crop is Aubrey House, Holland Park, which has been on the market for more than a year through Knight Frank. For sale for the first time in 120 years, the freehold property has been reduced by £5 million to £20 million.

## Being cool makes a house hot

Morag Preston finds ventilation adds value

As temperatures reach record levels, more and more homeowners are turning to air conditioning. Keeping cool in the office and car is no longer a problem, so why should it be at home?

"Comfort cooling is the way of the future," says Gill Lamprell at Knight Frank. "People in the UK are more streetwise, and have travelled abroad more. However, you will still find full-blown air conditioning only in top-of-the-range houses, and I think that will always be the case."

To serve the demands of the increasing number of buyers from the Far East, housing developers here are now installing ventilation as standard. Hidden in a wall, the systems are usually found in reception rooms and master bedrooms. They are especially popular in cities, where people prefer not to open windows because of the noise. "It will add value to your house," says Ms Lamprell.

Costs for installing air conditioning in your own home start at £2,000 a room, although most companies will put together special deals. Multi-split systems allow you to have more than one indoor unit and only one outdoor unit, which costs less, looks better and takes less time to install.

Tim Wilson at A&A Co-Ordinated Services in Kent, advises: "Check whether the price includes installation. Does the quote tell you how powerful the unit is? Can you have a heat pump for the winter?"

Getting permission to put a condenser box on the outside wall of a listed building can be a problem. Rental is usually available only for commercial use, so hiring a small portable unit is an economic alternative. Provided you have a socket and a window just above the system for a flexible hose to fit through, it should cool an area of 250sq ft with a standard 8ft ceiling. Prices start at £850.

A portable evaporative air cooler, at a cost of around £150, is no bigger than a television set. Though it won't lower the temperature, it will throw fresh air into a room, working on the principle of drawing air over water. Doors and windows must be open when it is switched on, which helps to clear the air.

Andrew Cohen at the Air Conditioning Company says: "Fixed installation can be unsightly, unless it's a new house and the ducting has been hidden. But putting it in once the house is built is as much of an upheaval as installing heating, and you leave it behind when you sell."

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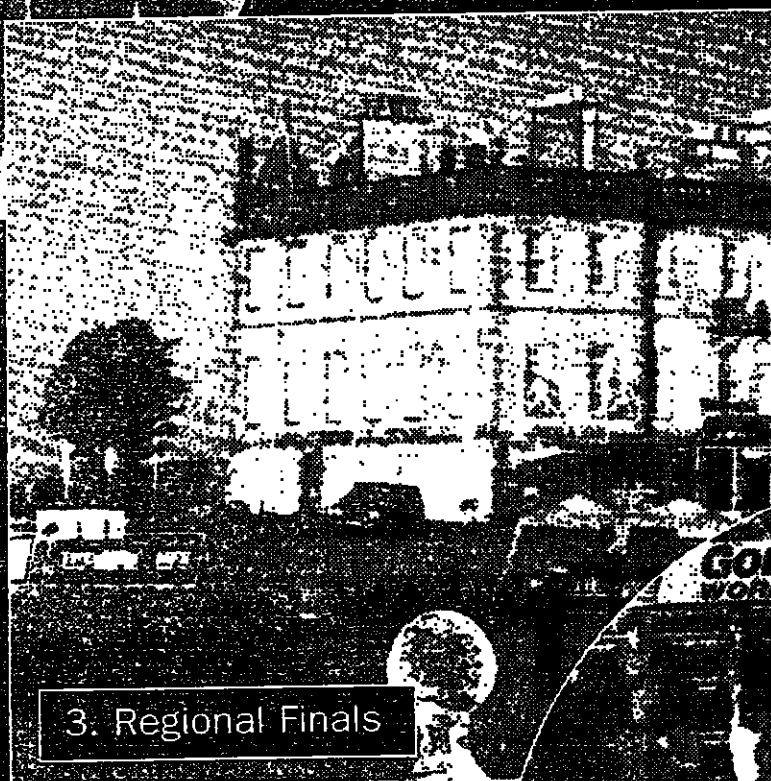
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# Clerkenwell aims for Melbourne Cup

4	A. Lashley	43	17	LASTOFFERMANEYES I McQuinn	4-10-11	Michael Brennan (3)
4	J. Fleming	46	18	THE LITTLE HIGH 2 P H Webster	4-10-11	Mr P Scott
4	P. Pacey (2)	37	19	THE LITTLE HIGH 2 P H Webster	4-10-11	Mr O McQuinn (7)
4	Steven Millard (2)	—	20	00- JAMES FOLEY 1 G. Gieseler	4-10-11	Mr O McQuinn (7)
4	10-1 T Williams	32	21	PENWILET 1 McQuinn	4-10-11	Mr O McQuinn (7)
4-6-1	Macaulay, 6-1 Pacey			00- PENEWILET 1 McQuinn	4-10-11	Mr O McQuinn (7)
Others				4-6 Regal Abner, 4-1 Master Harry 2-1 Donahero, 8-1		Bong, 10-1 Jack The Boys, 10-1 Charman Polter, 10-1 Little Debs, 16-1 Others







## EQUESTRIANISM

## Britain look to restore their golden reputation

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

THE Great Britain showjumping team, which has not won a championship since 1989, will attempt to correct that record when it competes at the biennial European showjumping championships, which begin today in Mannheim, Germany. The team competition involves a speed leg tomorrow and a Nations Cup contest on Friday. The individual championship is decided on Sunday.

Fourteen teams are competing, with Germany, the world and Olympic champions, Switzerland, the winners on the past two occasions, and Holland, winners of the Aachen Nations Cup in June and runners-up in Rotterdam last weekend, the favourites.

Britain, unbeatable in three successive European championships from 1985 to 1989, have conspicuously failed to recapture that form in recent years. They were sixth in the 1994 world championships and eleventh at the Olympic Games in Atlanta last summer. That humiliation prompted the British Showjumping Association to introduce selection trials to ensure an in-form team for these championships.

A superb Nations Cup season — which has included wins in Modena, Windsor, Gijón and Bratislava — has raised hopes of success this week. John Whitaker, on Virtual Village, who won the Aachen grand-prix in June and is one of the favourites for individual honours this week, heads the five riders from which the team of four will be chosen. Michael Whitaker, Robert Smith and Di Lampard, the first three in the trials, together with Geoff Billington make up the five. Ronnie Massarella, the team manager, will decide which rider to drop after the warm-up classes today. It will not be an easy decision.

Billington has one of the

most able horses on the circuit in Mrs. Ouse, but the rider makes the odd error of judgment. Michael Whitaker and Ashley were disappointing in Aachen, but underlined their form with a clear round in the Rotterdam grand-prix last weekend.

Smith won the Dublin grand-prix on Tees Hanover, two weeks ago and has also shown consistent form on Orthos, most recently in Rotterdam, where they had only four faults in the Nations Cup. Lampard, the trainer of the gold medal-winning Britain team at the European party championships last month, was seventh in Dublin on Abberval Dream, and also had four faults in the Rotterdam Nations Cup.

If Lampard is selected, it will be the culmination of a seven-year quest for her and Robert Verburg, the owner of Abberval Dream. The Irish-bred gelding was bought as a three-year-old from Ireland after Verburg's wife, Dina, dreamt that a horse they owned won a medal for Britain.

Although the German team, which pulled out of the last European championships because of the poor going, is weakened by the absence of injured world champion, Frank Sloothak, it is still a formidable force. Ludger Beerbaum, ranked No 1 in the world, is the mainstay, backed up by Lars Nieberg and For Pleasure, members of their Olympic gold medal-winning team.

Switzerland are sixth in the Nations Cup series, but have a habit of peaking at leading championships. Their team includes Willi Melliger, with the majestic Calvaro, winners of the Olympic individual silver medal. They, together with John Whitaker, Beerbaum and Hugo Simon, Austria's dual World Cup-winner, are leading contenders for the individual gold medal.



Andy and David Baxter, right, celebrate a narrow victory in the pairs competition at Worthing yesterday

## Baxters get the measure of Burgess

BY DAVID RYAN JONES

THIRTY seconds has never seemed so long as it did at Beach House Park, in Worthing, yesterday when, after three hours and ten minutes of his pairs quarter-final, Grant Burgess called for half a minute's grace before a final measure was applied.

With the scores tied at 18-18 after the full 21 ends, an extra end was required and the four players clustered their bowls around the jack to such effect that six lay within a foot and nobody could tell who held the winning shot.

Burgess, an England player from the Gilt Edge club, Kilderrin, had played two almost perfect shots, but his opposite number, Andy

Baxter, who helped Wigton to win the triples on Saturday, had replied with even closer bowls.

The very last bowl of the end, delivered by Burgess, leant on the nearest Worcestershire bowl, canning it towards the jack, but failed to tip it over, so Burgess invoked a rarely-used law, which allows 30 seconds to elapse after the last bowl comes to rest before a measure is taken.

Even spectators counted the seconds off and, as soon as the time was up, Dave Baxter, the Wigton lead, and brother of the skip, ripped in to prop the enemy bowl, lest it should topple during the measure.

On to the stage stepped the umpire, Terry Patrick, from Hornchurch, to adjudicate

and immediately reached for a neat pair of callipers. With every eye upon him, he exhibited the sang-froid that Sir Francis Drake must have shown on Plymouth Hoe and pronounced the Cumbrian closer than the Worcestershire wood by less than an eighth of an inch.

Results ..... 38

Stuart McCaughtrie and Burgess drooped visibly, but the Baxter brothers whooped it up, having qualified for the semi-finals today with two single-shot victories.

Earlier, against John Hornes and Peter Lundy, the Baxters had gone into the last

end with the scores tied at 13-13 and were several shots down when Andy Baxter stepped on the mat to bowl his penultimate wood.

"I hadn't caught the back-hand all morning, but this time I found it perfectly," he said. His attacking bowl picked up the jack and carried it several yards, staying with it and frustrating Lundy, who had enjoyed great success with his retrieval attempts, but this time failed to hit his target.

This morning, the Cumbrian pair will play Bryan Taylor and Tony Kempster, of Northumberland, while Shaun Nutman and Adam Tidby, from Dorset, will take on Nigel Cordy and Dale Wilson, of Lincolnshire, in the other semi-final.

## BOWLS

## Hawes and Price take title for England

BY GORDON DUNWOODIE

KATHERINE HAWES and Mary Price duly won the pairs gold medal for England at the Atlantic Rim championships in Llandrindod Wells yesterday, maintaining their two-point advantage through the final two rounds with wins over Argentina and the United States.

Unlike earlier rounds, in which they had carried all before them, Hawes and Price had to survive some anxious moments in both matches. Against Maria Canzani and Maria Cabrera, of Argentina, the England pair recovered from 7-10 down at nine ends to win 25-14.

However, the real drama came in the final game against Olga Gomez and Anne Barber, of the United States, who had won only five of their previous 12 games. The United States pair unexpectedly established a 9-0 lead and, after 12 of the scheduled 21 ends, had increased their advantage to 13-3.

With the world champions, Phillis Nolan and Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, beating South Africa on the adjacent rink, the England pair knew they needed at least a draw to take gold. The revival began slowly, but, on the eighteenth end, they picked up four shots to lead 15-14. A single, followed by a penultimate end six gave them an eight-shot lead on the last, where they were content to surrender a double and finish 22-16 winners.

Nolan and Johnston held on to defeat Jo Peacock and Laura Prigwell, the defending champions, 20-16, to take the silver medal on shot aggregate ahead of Jean and Anne Simon, of Guernsey, who beat Spain 25-10.

In the triples, Kathy Pearce, Sarah Mansbridge and Betty Morgan kept the home supporters happy when they beat Namibia 21-8 to win the gold medal. Jersey won the silver by defeating Holland 23-7. Israel, needing victory over Scotland to secure the gold, finished without a medal when Isobel Myers, Arlene Rubin and Maureen Hirschowitz lost 15-9 — a result that gave Scotland the bronze.

## IN BRIEF

## Gibbs has extra time to prove his fitness

SCOTT GIBBS and Wayne Proctor have been given until tomorrow to prove their fitness to play for Wales in the rugby union international against Romania at Wrexham on Saturday.

Neither Gibbs nor Proctor was able to take part in squad training yesterday, but Kevin Bowring, the coach, said: "We have a number of options in both positions. I don't want to put any pressure on Scott and I won't risk him if there is any danger of long-term damage."

Cricket: Steve and Mark Waugh are both included in the Australia squad for the Hong Kong sixes tournament at the end of next month. Steve Waugh will captain a squad that also includes Brendon Julian, a member of the Australia squad that has retained the Ashes, and Andrew Symonds, the former Gloucestershire batsman.

Boxing: Nigel Wention, of Liverpool, will meet Giovanni Parisi, of Italy, the World Boxing Organisation lightweight champion, in Rome on October 4. Wention, 28, joins Lennox Lewis, Nicky Piper and Carl Thompson, who are all boxing for world titles that night.

Snooker: Highland Spring, the mineral water supplier, is the sponsor of the Scottish Open, a world ranking tournament, to be staged in Aberdeen next February. The deal guarantees prize funds for the event totalling more than £1 million for the next three years with £60,000 of this season's £350,000 purse to be pocketed by the winner.

Cricket: The Cricket Foundation has awarded £2.5 million to all 38 British county boards as part of a development programme to increase participation, standards of play, coaching, grounds-ship, umpiring and scoring.

American football: Five British cities — London, Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham and Edinburgh — have been earmarked as venues to stage Arena football, a version of the game, when a European League is created in 1999.

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Boris Schapiro, bridge correspondent of *The Sunday Times*, is still playing a strong game at the age of 86. Along with Chris Convery, Craig Gower and Wayne Chu he won the South Africa team championships in May. He was alert on this hand from the event.

Dealer West	North-South game	IMPs
♠ Q 8 7 6 3 ♥ 9 8 5 ♦ K 8 7 ♣ K 5	♠ 9 2 ♥ Q ♦ J 10 8 6 4 ♣ Q 8 7 6 2	
♠ 4 ♥ K J 10 7 6 3 ♦ 5 2 ♣ J 10 9 4	♠ A K J 10 5 ♥ A 4 2 ♦ A Q 3 ♣ A 3	

Contract: Six Spades by South. Lead: Jack of clubs

After Boris had opened a sporting Three Hearts on the West hand, North-South bid themselves into Six Spades, with South showing first-round control of hearts on the way. Due to the unfortunate mirror distribution of their cards, eleven tricks looks the limit of the hand. However, declarer did the best he could by taking two rounds of trumps and all the minor-suit winners ending in hand. He then led a low heart towards dummy's 9 8 5.

Boris could see that the only chance for the defence was that the declarer had three hearts. If they were A Q 2, clearly declarer would have arranged to play hearts from dummy after the elimination of the side suits — that way he could lead the nine and run it to West, ensuring his contract. Hence Boris could deduce South's hearts were only A x x. So he went up with the king of hearts, thus swallowing his

partner's queen (a manoeuvre known as the "Crocodile Coup").

Now he continued with the jack of hearts and declarer had to lose a second trick in the suit. Had West played small on the first round of hearts, East would have had to win and concede a ruff and discard.

The Four-Stars Teams competition at the EBU summer congress in Brighton was won at the weekend by David Price, Gunnar Hallberg, Lionel Wright and Colin Simpson, of London.

For details of *The Times* Midland Private Banking National Bridge Challenge, call the organisers on 0181-942 9506.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- BAM  
a. A tent  
b. A fruit  
c. A bang
- FUNDI  
a. Grass  
b. The Princess of Wales  
c. A trestle

- BUNRAKU  
a. Salt prawns  
b. Puppetry  
c. Indonesian class system
- GERENUK  
a. A missile  
b. An ice tent  
c. An antelope

Answers on page 42

## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

## Internet Olympiad

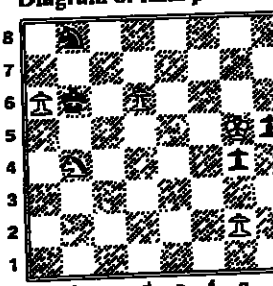
Concurrent with the Mind Sports Olympiad at London's Royal Festival Hall an Olympiad chess competition was also held on the Internet. The winner was Jonathan Schroer, from the United States. Here is one of the winner's games plus another attractive victory in a gambit opening.

White: Schroer  
Black: TadasG  
Mind Sports Olympiad  
Virtual Chess, August 1997

## Queen's Gambit Declined

- |          |       |
|----------|-------|
| 1 d4     | d5    |
| 2 d4     | e6    |
| 3 Nf3    | Be7   |
| 4 Bg5    | O-O   |
| 5 e3     | Nbd7  |
| 6 Nc3    | Nbd5  |
| 7 Rc1    | Oe7   |
| 8 Qxd5   | Nxd5  |
| 9 Nxd5   | Qxd5  |
| 10 Be7   | Qb4+  |
| 11 Rc2   | Qa4   |
| 12 Qc2   | Qa3   |
| 13 b3    | Nf6   |
| 14 Bb3   | Nf6   |
| 15 O-O   | Qa6   |
| 16 Bxa6  | Rxa6  |
| 17 Rc1   | Rac7  |
| 18 a4    | Rc8   |
| 19 Rc7   | Rc7   |
| 20 Qe2   | Rc1+  |
| 21 Qxa6  | Rc1+  |
| 22 Qh1   | Kf8   |
| 23 Kd1   | Ke7   |
| 24 Ke2   | Nd7   |
| 25 Nc2   | is    |
| 26 is    | Kd6   |
| 27 Kd3   | Ke4+  |
| 28 e4    | dxe4+ |
| 29 bxe4  | Kd5   |
| 30 Nxe4+ | Kd5   |
| 31 Nc3+  | a6    |
| 32 Kc4   | Nf6   |
| 33 b4    | bxa6  |
| 34 a5    | Kd6   |
| 35 bxa6  | Ng4   |
| 36 Na4   | Nh2   |
| 37 Ne5   |       |

## Diagram of final position



White: FuLinHyu  
Black: Clammer  
Mind Sports Olympiad  
Virtual Chess, August 1997

## Danish Gambit

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1 e4     | e5        |
| 2 d4     | exd4      |
| 3 c3     | Qd5       |
| 4 Bc4    | Oe6       |
| 5 Nxc3   | Bc5       |
| 6 Nf3    | c6        |
| 7 Be3    | Bxe3      |
| 8 he3    | b5        |
| 9 O-O    | Qh6       |
| 10 e5    | Qa3+      |
| 11 Bc3   | Qa6       |
| 12 Kh1   | Qa5       |
| 13 Nh4   | Qc7       |
| 14 Qf3   | Qc7       |
| 15 Ra1   | g6        |
| 16 Qh5+  | Qg8       |
| 17 Ng5   | Rg8       |
| 18 Nxf7+ | Kd8       |
| 19 Ng6   | d5        |
| 20 Qe8   | checkmate |

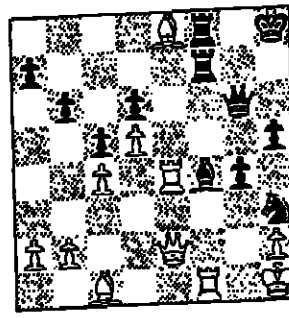
Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Osnos — Juchtmann, USSR 1969. In this complex middlegame position White is counting on his pin against the black rook on f7. How did Black now prove that his own threats were the stronger?

Solution on page 42



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Simon Wilde weighs up prospects for the county season's closing stages

# Grace's championship set for last hurrah

With the dust settling, if not quite settled, on the summer's international cricket, the county game can expect to command the stage for most of the remaining four weeks of the season. The NatWest Trophy final takes place at Lord's on September 6, but either side of it are two rounds of matches in the Britannic Assurance championship.

It is appropriate that the championship should be protected from distractions during its closing stages. For many of the game's followers, it is an integral part of English cricket. It has been going as an official contest for 107 years and unofficially for many more than that. It is only lately that Test cricket's primacy over county cricket has been generally accepted.

Part of the interest in the championship's final weeks will be precisely because this principle is likely to be sanctified when the members of the England and Wales Cricket Board vote on its management board's blueprint for the future playing structure.

The proposal is that from next year the championship be divided into three conferences of six teams, with each side playing 12 "league" games and two play-offs. There appears to be no prospect of the competition staying the same. Two divisions seems the likely alternative. Either way, the path to radical change has been taken.

This may be no bad thing for the England team, but it could be for the championship and county out-grounds, where the fabric of the game is richest. Critics of the championship accuse it of attracting only pensioners with Thermos

flasks, but this has never been the case at festival venues such as Abergavenny, Cheltenham and Ilford.

It is to these appreciative places, perhaps, that the final matches should be sent. Instead, the last three rounds are scheduled, exclusively, at county headquarters, which will sport many empty seats.

Yet two of tomorrow's matches are on out-grounds and both are important fixtures. The one at the United Services Ground, Portsmouth, sees Kent, the bookmakers' favourites, take on Hampshire without their strike bowler, Martin McCague, who has broken down with a back complaint. Kent may miss him on what is usually a batsman's pitch — it helped Hampshire to avoid defeat by Yorkshire last week — against opponents

in touch with the leaders, though tailoring the pitch to help the bowlers might only play into the hands of the Middlesex attack, among whom Tufnell should be full of confidence. Worcestershire expect Haynes and Spence to have shaken off injuries.

Glamorgan, the leaders, face the stiffest task of the five leading contenders. They must play Gloucestershire, the defending champions, whose captain, James Whitaker, bravely refuses to discount his side's chances, on their own patch at Grace Road. Glamorgan may be without their own captain, Matthew Maynard, who dislocated a finger during the victory over Northamptonshire that took them back to the top. Morris, however, will be available.

Gough, who has not played since incurring the knee injury that put him out of the last two Test matches almost a month ago, is to test his fitness in the nets prior to Yorkshire's game with Lancashire at Old Trafford. He is optimistic of playing, though Moxon is still unavailable because of back trouble. Lancashire, of course, will be without wherewithal who has taken the week off to consider his future.

Gloucestershire have resisted recalling their most experienced batsmen, Lynch and Wright, for the visit of Nottinghamshire, but David Lawrence, muscle problems overcome, has declared himself ready to bring his ample presence to the party.

It would be appropriate if Gloucestershire, the team of W.G. Grace, who did more than anyone to popularise county cricket, were to win this last "old-fashioned" championship.

More likely, they will come unstuck next week at Canterbury and, while attention will indeed turn to the West Country during the last round of matches, it will focus not on Bristol but Taunton, as Glamorgan breast the tape.



Waqar Younis will give Glamorgan a vital cutting edge over the next few weeks

THE RACE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP									
	P	W	L	D	Bat	Bowl	Pts		
GLAMORGAN	13	6	2	5	37	41	189		
KENT	13	6	4	3	32	45	187		
GLoucestershire	13	6	3	4	29	44	181		
YORKSHIRE	13	5	2	6	28	44	170		
WORCESTERSHIRE	13	4	1	8	35	40	169		

Glamorgan: Lancashire (Leicester), Surrey (the Oval), Essex (Cardiff), Somerset (Taunton).

Kent: Hampshire (Portsmouth), Gloucestershire (Canterbury), Yorkshire (Headingley), Surrey (Canterbury).

Gloucestershire: Nottinghamshire (Bristol), Kent (Canterbury), Warwickshire (Edgbaston), Lancashire (Bristol).

Yorkshire: Lancashire (Old Trafford), Worcestershire (Headingley), Kent (Headingley), Derbyshire (Derby).

Worcestershire: Middlesex (Kiddeminster), Yorkshire (Headingley), Derbyshire (Worcester), Hampshire (Southampton).

## GLAMORGAN

Glamorgan began impressively — they had the better of Warwickshire and Yorkshire in rain-soaked games and beat Kent at Canterbury — and have looked good since. Their position in the table has never been lower than sixth. On paper, they have the best-balanced side experience and youth, stacks of positive batting, a potent new-ball attack and complementary types of spinners. The irony is that they were dismissed for 31 by Middlesex at Cardiff in June and that Croft, sole batsman away with England, and Cooker last took wickets in the same championship innings on May 17. Their time may come. More likely still, it will come for Waqar Younis, the overseas recruit who has already won ten games that others could not and who has trophy bonuses written into his contract. Arguably, they have the easiest run-in and Waqar may be expected to turn up the heat when he faces his previous county at the Oval.

Man to watch: Waqar Younis. Last championship: 1989. Batting: 13-5.

## KENT

In their desire to recapture the golden days of the Seventies, Kent have unceremoniously dumped several yeoman of Albion — among them Ealham, Denness, Tavaré and Coady — but it would surprise the Band of Brothers now if the alchemists proved to be a New Zealand coach (John Wright), a Zimbabwe overseas player (Paul Strang), a wicketkeeper-captain (Steve Marsh) and a top five with fewer runs this summer than England. It could happen: a side who responded to leading the table in mid-June by losing to Durham have apparently calmed their nerves. The batsmen no longer leave the runs to the lower order. McCague, when fit, continues to make incursions with the new ball and Strang with the old, while Ealham rarely lets a match go by without leaving his mark. Fitness and the scars of the past permitting, Kent should be thereabouts at the end, but there is the toughest finale.

Man to watch: Mark Ealham. Last championship: 1979. Batting: 6-5.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Gloucestershire have been the championship dark horses this season, but, with their history of tripping up in the home straight, they could yet turn into the Arks. In March, no one gave them a chance. Symonds, their best batsman, was not returning, neither was Walsh, their spearhead fast bowler and captain. Alleyne was handed the leadership only after Russell quibbled over terms. There was a lack of glamour, but, within three matches, it was clear that there was no shortage of guts. Their batsmen may have made fewer runs than Kent's, but Smith's swing bowling has been influential and Alleyne, Young, Walsh's impressive deputy — and Russell inspirational. Twenty years ago, Gloucestershire needed only to beat Hampshire at home to be crowned official champions for the first time, but unaccountably lost. If they beat Kent, they might convince themselves and others that this is finally their year.

Man to watch: Mark Alleyne. Last championship: Never won. Batting: 7-2.

## YORKSHIRE

If Yorkshire are to win the championship again, these might be the right circumstances: coming up on the rails, with no time to contemplate the significance of winning a first title in 22 years and getting all those former players off the team's back. Yorkshire were tipped to do well before the season, but, after two early victories, they went six weeks without another; three home wins on the trot have brought them back into contention. Their batting is carried by Lehmann, the reliable and sometimes brilliant import, but at full strength their last-bowling attack ought to be formidable. A partnership of Gough and Hutchison — the first of the season — could tip the remaining fixtures in Yorkshire's balance, in which case their catching and better be sharp. Last year, it is them down as they lost three successive games to unlikely opposition and blew their chance. Choking remains the main danger.

Man to watch: Paul Hutchison. Last championship: 1982. Batting: 14-1.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Worcestershire, alone of the contenders, have been here before. Seven of the side — Curtis, Hick, Illingworth, Lampitt, Leatherdale, Newport and Rhodes — are veterans of the team that took the title in 1988 after winning six of their final eight fixtures, a late charge that has since been something of a club specialty. The past five matches were won to secure second place in 1993 and, astonishingly, only four weeks ago Worcestershire languished in fourteenth place, albeit with games in hand. Since then, they have outplayed Kent and Warwickshire and beaten Northamptonshire and Glamorgan. Moody leads the side imaginatively. Curtis is having an outstanding first season, the bowling is varied and resourceful. Even when they were only drawing matches, the side sometimes played well in their first home game, they dismissed Lancashire for 69. They must remain "hot" if they are to see off Middlesex and Yorkshire.

Man to watch: Tom Moody. Last championship: 1989. Batting: 14-1.

## Lighting up time as Sussex press the switch

By IVO TENNANT

SUSSEX are hoping to attract a capacity crowd this evening for the first competitive floodlit match to be played in England on a ground not used for Test cricket. About 5,500 spectators are expected to fill the deckchairs, temporary seating and barbecue area for their Axa Life League match against Surrey.

The match is the second floodlit fixture to be fulfilled this season, after Warwickshire's triumph over Somerset on a rainy evening at Edgbaston last month. A crowd of 15,000 attended, resulting in a profit of about £70,000. Sussex will not be able to match that, because Hove is a much smaller ground, but Tony Pigott, the chief executive, said a profit was guaranteed — weather permitting.

The forecast is for rain on the South Coast this morning, clearing by mid-afternoon. Sussex have taken out an insurance policy in the event of an abandonment and have covered the cost of the five floodlights — installed by the same firm used at Edgbaston — through sponsorship that is worth £40,000.

Pigott himself had the idea of staging this fixture as a floodlit encounter. "Surrey are the ideal opponents, as they planned to hold the first day-night match," he said. "The dew at this time of year is a bit of a problem, so we will drag a rope across the outfield between overs and when batsmen are out. There are always one or two residents who complain about noise, but the local council has been supportive."

The reaction from our members has been fantastic. They have not objected to our plans for each batsman to come in to music and for a jazz band to perform on the outfield before the start and between innings. The Army will be demonstrating how to build a tank and we will stage a bowling competition for children."

Surrey will be without Graham Thorpe, who is injured, but Ian Salisbury hopes to be fit to play against his former county.

Pigott said he would know in about three weeks' time whether Shane Warne, the leg spinner, who returned to Australia yesterday with the Ashes touring party, would be joining them next season.

## Final offers new chance for Payne

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

IAN PAYNE, the Shropshire captain, will put aside past disappointments when he leads his side out at Lord's in the MCC Trophy final today against Norfolk.

Payne, the former Surrey and Gloucestershire all-rounder, has waited 18 years to appear in a Lord's final, having been twelfth man three times for Surrey — and, in 1979, as a member of the county staff, he watched them lose the Benson and Hedges Cup final to Essex from the Mound Stand.

Indeed, he might never have been granted the pleasure; he almost retired four years ago. "At that time, I took voluntary redundancy from my job and we moved from near Wimbledon to enjoy Welsh country life," Payne said. "It was a perfect decision. I planned to get my golf handicap down and had no serious intention of playing cricket again."

Payne succeeded Mark Davies as the Shropshire captain in midsummer and now presides over a county that will be playing in its final final today. Four of his squad have not previously been to Lord's, even as spectators.

Norfolk, on the other hand, have had greater success of late, but Paul Newman, their Worcester-based captain, believes that there is little to choose between the two counties. Norfolk last won the MCC Trophy 11 years ago and will need all of Newman's experience of five Lord's finals if they are to succeed today. Bedfordshire will secure the eastern division title if they secure six points from the game against Northumberland that starts on Sunday.

## Searchers after swing put faith in sugar solutions

BOWERS will try anything to help the ball swing. Bortle tops, Vaseline and hair lacquer have all been surreptitiously applied down the ages. Now word is spreading of an aid that assists swing bowling without contravening the laws — bottled fruit sweets.

The theory runs thus: sucking the sweets stimulates production of saliva with a high sugar content, which, when rubbed on to the ball, leaves the desired coat of polish on its surface. It is shinier than usual, as well as harder to remove. Law 42.5, referring to unfair play, permits bowlers to polish the ball as long as no time is wasted and "no artificial substance is used". Saliva, as the bowlers' union will argue, is a natural body fluid and has, like sweat, been utilised for years.

When the supply at one county ran out, the twelfth man was dispatched to the nearest newsagents to replenish stocks. Being health-conscious, he returned with four packets of low-sugar sweets and was promptly sent back to the shop.

## Identity crisis

The Birmingham League is facing extinction after 109 years, according to Barrie Middleton, the secretary. The Warwickshire Cricket Board (WCB) wants to integrate it into a county-wide structure and Middleton fears refusal to agree to the plan could result in the loss of WCB and sponsorship funding.

He believes that the five Warwickshire-based clubs in the 12-strong league will be approached independently by the WCB if the Birmingham



COVER

League declines to join en masse at an emergency meeting next month. "We will lose our identity if we go into this new league, but we could lose our very existence if we decide to go it alone," Middleton said.

## Cover girls

The front of the September issue of *Inside Edge* has five heads of cricketers figures transplanted on to the bodies of the ubiquitous Spice Girls. The cast reads: Lord MacLaurin as Posh Spice, Ben Hollis as Baby Spice, Tim Lamb as Ginger Spice, David Lloyd as Sporty Spice and, naturally, Nasser Hussain as Scary Spice. "It is our response to the MacLaurin Report," Charles Frewin, the magazine's publisher, explained. "Our coverage is a little more serious inside. What, even more serious?"

## Scholarship boy

The most gifted young cricketer in Antigua, Robert Joseph, a 15-year-old all-rounder, has been awarded a scholarship for three years at Sutton Valence School. This is the first award of its kind to be given by the school and has

been set up in consultation with Richie Richardson, the former West Indies captain, who is playing for Lashings, a club side in Maidstone.

## Warne under fire

Criticism of Shane Warne among Australians has switched from his antics on the balcony after the Trent Bridge Test to his wish to play county cricket next season. Indeed, if the words of Malcolm Knox in the *Sydney Morning Herald* are typical, Warne may decide that a return to England in 1998 is not worth the aggravation.

"Can Warne, or anyone advising him, seriously contemplate a season of wrenching his joints on damp county grounds?" Knox asks. "What good would it do him to ping down the lower order at Durham or Kent with a bunch of idiot soccer fans screaming at him? It will be remembered as an act of ill-advised greed that shortened a great career."

## Foreign parts

Keith Fletcher has always struggled with names. Explaining that Ronnie Irani had gone for homeopathic injections to cure his side injury in time for the NatWest Trophy final on September 6, Fletcher, the Essex coach, could not recall whether the all-rounder was in Munich or Zurich. Irani has been in the German city, in fact, but then Fletcher can be forgiven for thinking of Zurich, given that he answered to the nickname of "Gnome" throughout his career.

FATHER TIMES

**COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS**

The four top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf courses today are as follows. The company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

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National Final shown on **5C sports**

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
3 JUL	BRIDON INTERNATIONAL	HICKLETON	137
7 JUL	DFDS TRANSPORT LIMITED	STOKE BY NAYLAND	142
10 JUL	DUDLEY STATIONARY LIMITED	FRINTON ON SEA	138
11 JUL	THE LLOYD GROUP	HADLEY WOOD	133
5 AUG	TCA BUILDING CONSULTANCY	KNEBTHORP	139
8 AUG	SCIENTIFIC GLASS LABORATORIES LTD	GREENWAY HALL	146
13 AUG	ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE PLC	HAWKSTONE PARK	143
14 AUG	ALLIED DUNBAR (YORK)	EASINGWOLD	152
14 AUG	SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY	SKIPTON	149
14 AUG	AVON INSURANCE PLC	STRATFORD UPON AVON	146
14 AUG	RIDGONS LTD	KINGS LYNN	115
14 AUG	PATTON GROUP	GALGORM CASTLE	115
15 AUG	CITY FINANCIAL PARTNERS LTD	WENTWORTH GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	163
15 AUG	BOYD & LLOYD OFFICE SUPPLIES LTD	TRACY PARK	154

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27 1997

# Fighting a running battle against anorexia

John Goodbody reports on the alarming number of young women athletes with eating disorders

An alarming number of British women runners are suffering from anorexia or bulimia, threatening their health and their athletic careers. Preliminary results from a survey by Leeds University of more than 200 leading runners show that at least eight per cent have had treatment for eating disorders, a figure eight times higher than average for the age group in question. Athletes have spoken to *The Times* about their own psychological distress and changing-room gossip of girls eating pills to stop them feeling hungry.

Runners World has set up a national advice centre, urging athletes to write to the magazine under strict confidentiality so that they can get help and share information with fellow sufferers.

The British Athletic Federation (BAF) is also establishing a panel, which is waiting for lottery funding, to help competitors in distress. Dr Malcolm Brown, the BAF's chief medical officer, said: "There is a problem and it is something that we are trying to tackle."

Dr Angie Hulley, of the centre for studies in PE and sports science at Leeds University, sent questionnaires to the top-ranked 50 competitors in the 800 metres, 1,500 metres, 3,000 metres, marathon and cross-country to find out how many British athletes have suffered from eating disorders. Of the 80 per cent who replied, 81 per cent admitted they had had treatment. However, Dr Hulley, who represented Britain in the marathon at the Olympic Games in 1988, said that this percentage might underestimate the scale of the problem. Although anonymity was assured, people with eating disorders were often loath to tell others.



Thomson, like many athletes with eating disorders, was attracted by "another way to lose weight"

Several runners were happy to talk to *The Times* about their experiences of anorexia, however. Rachel Nicholson, 19, from Berkhamstead, in Hertfordshire, who was a first reserve for the 1996 British junior cross-country team, was admitted to St Ann's Hospital, Tottenham, at the end of last year. She weighed only 52 1/2 lb, a drop of nearly 27 lb in nearly 18 months. Rachel stayed in the hospital for three months and still attends as a day patient twice a week, while she rebuilds her life.

Her determination to improve her performance drove her to lose weight. Although her parents and coach frequently warned her that she was losing too much weight, they were unaware how acute the disorder had become. She said: "You do become extremely secretive in your eating, such as taking packed lunches with you and not eating them. I just thought it was worth it for my athletics career."

Her last race was the English Schools 3,000 metres in 1996, when she weighed 62 1/2 lb. "I had become really unhappy and withered," she said. "I begged people to allow me to compete, but gradually I began to realise that the situation had become serious. Although I was not training at a club, I still wanted to lose weight. The stomach becomes so accustomed to not consuming food that you feel bloated if you eat a proper meal."

Nicholson now believes she has "turned the corner" and has established a normal eating pattern. She is about to start a university course in travel and tourism and hopes one day to restart her athletics career.

Lucy Hassell, 19, a member of Britain's women's junior cross-country team in 1995 and 1996, attended a Somerset clinic last year, where she was only allowed out of bed if she was in a wheelchair, so acute was her condition of anorexia nervosa. She wrote to the BAF in September 1996, saying that although she did not blame the governing body for her situation, she felt that it was "necessary to suggest that female athletes in this age group should undergo a compulsory medical before selection for the long and short-term health of Britain's athletes is not jeopardised by unhealthy body weights. The incidence of eating disorders in young female athletes is high and is easily disguised in the commitment to training and lifestyle that is necessary when competing at this level."

Women who are psychologically prone to eating disorders, or are already suffering from them, are often attracted to athletics. Trudi Thomson, from Dunfermline, Scotland, is typical. She had bulimia nervosa before she began running seriously at the age of 31.

Thomson, now 38 and an international marathon competitor, believes that running was another way to lose weight. "I have an addictive nature," she said. "I got on the stage that every time I put food in my mouth, I felt I ought to exercise."

However, she now finds the sport has helped her in her struggle against the condition. "I began to realise that when my performances were down, it was because I had not eaten properly. You can't compete on an empty tank."

The BAF accepts that it has some responsibility towards the athletes. Its panel, consisting of the British Olympic Association, a representative of the Eating Disorders Association, Dr Hulley and Brown himself, will try to make coaches, athletes and their families more aware of the problems.



Nicholson hopes to resume her athletics career after turning the corner in her struggle against anorexia

**THE TIMES**  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
**AXA EQUITY & LAW**

## THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	M J S (M Squares)	24433
2	Mow And Go (M John)	24432
3	Orford M & O (M John)	24432
4	The Tynes (M Collins)	24432
5	Dawn Dynamics (M Shephard)	24432
6	Dawn's Dependence (D Tabor)	24432
7	Wendell House 3 (P O'Brien)	24432
8	Portus (M Clark)	24432
9	Fantasy Formik (G Cuthbert)	24432
10	Nine on Behalf (M Jones)	24432
11	The Tynes Monkeys (M Jones)	24432
12	Dawn's Dependence (D Tabor)	24432
13	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
14	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
15	Kato's Corian (A Kato)	24432
16	Fantasy Formik (G Cuthbert)	24432
17	Hunter's Cuckoo (Hewson)	24432
18	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
19	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
20	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
21	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
22	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
23	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
24	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
25	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
26	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
27	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
28	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
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30	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
31	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
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33	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
34	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
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Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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55	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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83	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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96	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
97	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
98	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
99	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
100	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
101	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
102	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
103	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
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Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
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140	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
141	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
142	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432
143	Brain's Team (Hewson)	24432

## INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

The scores in the first four columns cover the past week: the final column is the player's overall points total. The figures include all matches completed by August 25. Overseas players are shown in bold type. Rising Stars in *italic*.

### Batsmen (001-148)

G P Adams (002)	32	0	0	0	0	32
C W J Athey (004)	0	0	0	0	0	0
R J Bailey (005)	22	0	0	0	0	22
D J Bailey (006)	150	0	0	0	0	150
G B Baskin (007)	132	0	0	0	0	132
D Baskin (008)	11	0	0	0	0	11
A D Baskin (009)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M Baskin (010)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M A Baskin (011)	0	0	0	0	0	0
P A Baskin (012)	36	0	0	0	0	36
A A Baskin (013)	0	0	0	0	0	0
G B Baskin (014)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M A Baskin (015)	161	0	0	0	0	161
M A Baskin (016)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M T Baskin (017)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M T Baskin (018)	10	0	0	0	0	10
M W Baskin (019)	0	0	0	0	0	0
N A Baskin (020)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M L Baskin (021)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M L Baskin (022)	0	0	0	0	0	0
G A Baskin (023)	128	0	0	0	0	128
A J Baskin (024)	0	0	0	0	0	0
N H Baskin (025)	216	0	0	0	0	216
D M Baskin (026)	0	0	0	0	0	0
D M Baskin (027)	0	0	0	0	0	0
J H Baskin (028)	160	0	0	0	0	160
M S Baskin (029)	0	0	0	0	0	0
J N Baskin (030)	10	0	0	0	0	10
M S Baskin (031)	0	0	0	0	0	0
D Lloyd (032)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M B Lloyd (033)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M B Lloyd (034)	0	0	0	0	0	0
A McGinnis (035)	36	0	0	0	0	36
R R Montgomery (036)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (037)	0	0	0	0	0	0
H R Montgomery (038)	0	0	0	0	0	0
D M Montgomery (039)	0	0	0	0	0	0
T L Montgomery (040)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (041)	104	0	0	0	0	104
R R Montgomery (042)	48	0	0	0	0	48
M R Montgomery (043)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (044)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (045)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (046)	0	0	0	0	0	0
M R Montgomery (047)	78	0	0	0	0	78
M R Montgomery (048)	112	0	0	0	0	112
G P Thomas (049)	178	0	0	0	0	178
M P Vaughan (050)	17	0	0	0	0	17
T P Vaughan (051)	81	0	0	0	0	81
M E Vaughan (052)	40	0	0	0	0	40
S E Vaughan (053)	22	0	0	0	0	22
A W Vaughan (054)	56	0	0	0	0	56
J W Vaughan (055)	69	0	0	0	0	69
W Vaughan (056)	21	0	0	0	0	21
J W Vaughan (057)	81	0	0	0	0	81







# Blonde beauties and their various beasts

What a phrase, an August Bank Holiday makes. Three new series and not a comedy compilation in sight. After such a breadbare summer, these are riches indeed. So rich in fact that I think we'd better start at the low calorie end of things — to avoid indigestion.

Television does not come more lightweight than *Vets in Practice* (BBC1). It's not quite snowflakes and kittens and warm woolen mittens time, but it's got most of my favourite things. Cats, dogs, horses and an array of highly trained, intelligent blondes. I remember going through a phase when I truly believed that real life would be just like that one day. Then I met a highly trained, intelligent blonde... who was allergic to animal hair. It was time for plan B.

But enough introspection. On television the words "blonde" and "vet" mean only one thing: Trude, the Norwegian who may have put

the phwoar in *ford*, but is best known, of course, for jabbing the needle through the kitten — several times. But that was before she qualified. Now, as the title suggests, she's in practice and last night we were privileged to witness her first patient, an incontinent rabbit. "My thigh feels warm. I wonder why?" observed Trude, whose English phrasebook has prepared her for such occasions.

It soon became clear, however, that I was wrong about the words "blonde" and "vet" meaning only one thing. As well as Trude in Bristol, they also mean Emma in Dulverton, Julie in Bulth Wells... Indeed, there are now so many telegenic blondes running around that it took Steve — tall, dark and creatively subterranean in Lancaster — the best part of 15 minutes to get on screen. His first patient was also a rabbit, but it died under anaesthetic. He cheered himself up with some

cavalier banter ("one-and-a-half to two weeks is the natural length of a relationship") and by adopting three stray kittens which he realised would be around for rather longer. The practice nurses sighed and thought he was lovely.

They were happy to play along with the film cameras that had turned up with their new vet. So too was Bertie Ellis, Julie's extravagantly whiskered new boss in Mid Wales, who initially seemed colourful and charming but would later stand accused of being patronising. Julie is not the sort of woman to cheer herself up with cavalier banter, so instead went off to put down a collie with cancer. Very soon we were as miserable as she was.

Down in Devon, Emma was in double trouble. Not only had her first emergency patient died overnight (a post mortem would later reveal that it was not her fault) but

## REVIEW



Matthew Bond

the colleague she had called in to assist had firmly shut the door on the camera crew. Mind you, she was a brunette.

Too frivolous, do you think? Maybe so, but that's the future of television for you where foreign affairs will be presented by Ulrika Jonsson and society's ills dealt with by Mark Little. Never mind the future, the latter arrived last night with Little, sometime Neigh-

bours star and *Big Breakfast* presenter, hosting *The Feel Good Factor* (Channel 4).

"Don't panic, it's not the one politicians keep going on about," announced Little. "It's about you and the difference you can make." I felt a warm glow. Bloody rabbit.

The programme gives the impression of being rather good television. It's well-intentioned: each week it plans to address a particular social issue in an engagingly specific way. Last night the subject was crime, so Little was sent to particular trouble spots in Sunderland and Merthyr Tydfil, to see what was already being done and what more could be done, particularly by the communities themselves. Answer — precious little, at least in Sunderland where just two people turned up for a meeting to launch a new neighbourhood watch scheme.

Therein lies the problem. Little may get the mix of gravitas and

irreverence about right but the programme itself is quick, slick... and utterly superficial. Last night it also developed an engaging habit of producing statistics that contradicted its own headlines. How many elderly people knew they could get financial assistance to install home security devices? Most of them, as it turned out.

On BBC2, *Bully: Stricks and Stones* will stay in the memory both for the harrowing content and for a cinematic device that was simply breathtaking. Up until then Kate Bromne, the director, had been telling the immensely moving stories of four teenagers who had committed suicide after suffering bullying at school.

Each story was told by a mix of parents and friends and followed a soon-to-be familiar course. The happy child they knew and loved,

the change in them after they started being bullied and eventually what happened when they could take no more. After three heart-breaking accounts, I wasn't sure I could take any more.

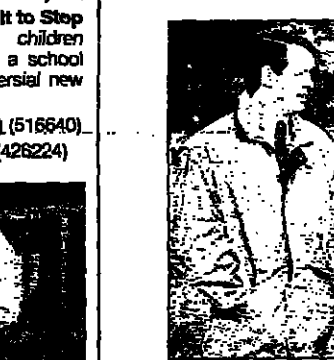
The fourth began in identical fashion — a mother, with pink-rimmed eyes, telling of the day she came home, shouted upstairs but got no answer, found her daughter, the empty paracetamol packet, the agonising wait for her child to die of liver damage in hospital. Except... Louise didn't die — the next voice we heard was hers and it was marvellous to hear it. Later, we would hear still more, as she made a positive and enlightening contribution to the first *Bullying Survival Guide* (BBC2).

Some would accuse Bromne of being manipulative or melodramatic, but I thought it was inspired and justified, bringing a positive note to a film that without it would have had no happy endings at all.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am *Business Breakfast* (75737)
  - 7.00 *BBC Breakfast News* (70195)
  - 9.00 *Breakfast News Extra* (7589178)
  - 9.20 *Ready, Steady, Cook* (7) (5870466)
  - 9.50 *Easther Heroes* (7) (7676553)
  - 10.20 *Put it to the Test* (5739824)
  - 10.45 *Carrie's Car* (7507118)
  - 11.00 *News* (7): Regional News and weather (2578889)
  - 11.05 *Due South* (7) (2639260)
  - 11.50 *Good Neighbours* (328943)
  - 12.00 *News* (7): Regional News and weather (4141689)
  - 12.05pm *Wipeout* (7) (5393973)
  - 12.35 *Neighbours* (7) (1625943)
  - 1.00 *News* (7) and weather (73282)
  - 1.30 *Regional News* (5858106)
  - 1.40 *Columbo: Requiem for a Felling Star* (7) (8708195)
  - 2.50 *Outcry* (3730392)
  - 3.40 *Popeye* (7) (613911) 3.45 *Peter Pan and the Pirates* (7) (613911) 3.50 *Thunderbirds* (7) (2033331) 4.20 *Police TV with Tony Hart* (2018698) 4.35 *Price of Atlantis* (7) (3193468) 5.00 *Newsround* (7) (2203089) 5.10 *Byker Grove* (7) (3147602)
  - 5.35 *Neighbours* (7) (108701)
  - 6.00 *News* (7) and weather (114)
  - 6.30 *Regional News Magazine* (468)
  - 6.58 *The Nation's Favourite Children's Book* (50458)
  - 7.00 *Mastermind* The last semi-final from the Old Laundry Theatre, Bowness-on-Windermere. Magnus Magnusson quizzes contestants on the life and 18th-century of William Collins, the city of Prague, the *Discworld* novels of Terry Pratchett and the Tudor conquest of Ireland (7) (8114)
  - 7.30 *TW Time Machine* Clips from the *Tomorrow's World* archive, featuring children's far-fetched visions of a robot-controlled future, including the flying car. Last in series (7) (350)
  - 8.00 *EastEnders* Ricky, Bianca, Phil, Kathy, Grant and Tiffany descend on Paris (7) (4534)
  - 8.30 *The National Lottery Live* (7) (418089)
  - 8.45 *Points of View* (7) (424640)
  - 9.00 *News* (7): Regional News and weather (4534)
  - 9.20 *Midweek Lottery Update* (689824)
  - 9.30 *French and Saunders* (7) (46553)
  - 10.00 *Inside Story: Our Man in Britain* Inside Story: Our Man in Britain. British Consul John Blakemore in Majorca (7) (229176)
  - 10.50 *Match of the Day* Desmond Lynam presents highlights of two of tonight's Premiership fixtures, including Everton v Manchester United at Goodison Park (4327973)
  - 12.00 *The Finest Hour* (1997) Rob Lowe stars in this action adventure as an American Special Forces recruit whose intense romantic rivalry with fellow trainee Gale Hansen is disrupted by the outbreak of the Gulf War. Directed by Shimon Dotan (551338)
  - 1.40 *am Weather* (2023831)

- BBC2**
- 6.00am *Open University: Data About Data* (5291963) 6.25 *Operating Systems* (1913480) 6.50 *Problems with Patterns* (5881282)
  - 7.15 *See Hear Breakfast News* (7) (5611263)
  - 7.30 *Talestubbies* (7) (4012485) 7.55 *Postman Pat* (7) (1200737) 8.10 *Raccoons* (7) (106350) 8.35 *The Really Wild Show* (7) (5273759) 9.05 *Mighty Max* (7) (5210292) 9.30 *Smart* (7) (7676911)
  - 10.05 *Smurfs: Adventures* (7) (5721089)
  - 10.25 *Fireman Sam* (7) (4001718) 10.35 *Bump* (7) (2716824) 10.45 *Talestubbies* (7) (503640) 11.15 *Awash with Colour* (800553)
  - 11.45 *Animals and Old Lace* (1944, b/w) with Cary Grant, Jean Acker and Josephine Hull. Screwball comedy based on the hit Broadway play, about two sweet little old ladies who lure lonely men to their home and poison them. Directed by Frank Capra (87242973)
  - 1.40pm *Open University: The Kingdom of the Ice* (5291963) 2.05 *The Kingdom of the Ice* (5291963) 2.30 *The Kingdom of the Ice* (5291963) 3.00 *News* (7) (2010737)
  - 3.05 *Modern Times: The Partners* A behind-the-scenes look at department store chain John Lewis (7) (4155756)
  - 3.55 *News* (7): regional news and weather (7638805)
  - 4.00 *The World in His Arms* (1952, b/w) Period melodrama with Gregory Peck telling of Russian conscript Ann Baylt, with Anthony Quinn. Directed by Raynold Welsh (8744114)
  - 5.40 *Birds with Tony Sopar* (288911)
  - 6.00 *Star Trek: The Next Generation* Commander Riker catches a deadly bug and falls into a coma (7) (519244)
  - 6.45 *Bully: I Just Want It to Stop* Three Oxfordshire children describe their experiences at a school which has adopted a controversial new anti-bullying policy (290892)
  - 7.25 *Bullying: A Survival Guide* (7) (516640)
  - 7.35 *The Phil Silvers Show* (b/w) (422224)

- HTV**
- 6.00am GMTV (7243911)
  - 9.25 *Win, Lose or Draw* (7) (5864505)
  - 9.55 *Judge Judy* (7) (5725331)
  - 10.20 *News* (7) (6527479)
  - 10.25 *Regional News* (7) (5619350)
  - 10.30 *Countdown* (1967) *Space drama* with Robert Duvall, James Caan and Jeanne Tripplehorn. Directed by Robert Altman (7)
  - 12.20 *Regional News* (7) (4130553)
  - 12.30 *ITN News* (7) (1611640)
  - 12.55 *Shortland Street* (7) (1625331)
  - 1.25 *Home and Away* (7) (1463492)
  - 1.50 *Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman* Drama series about a strong-willed female doctor on the American frontier in the 1850s. Dorothy is faced with a life or death decision (1230592)
  - 3.20 *News* (7) (2027027)
  - 3.25 *Regional News* (7) (2026359)
  - 3.30 *Tots TV: Hopping* (7) (2515881) 3.40 *Ticket to Ride* (6115331) 3.50 *Cartoon Time* (6144843) 4.00 *The Animal Show* (2612843) 4.10 *Chatterbox Pines* (7) (2010737) 4.20 *Art Attack* (7) (2040409) 4.40 *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* (7) (2025824)
  - 5.10 *Highway to Heaven* (2159824)
  - 5.40 *ITN News* (7) (292737)
  - 6.00 *Home and Away* Finally agrees to the book publisher's offer (7) (476814)
  - 6.25 *HTV Weather* (455824)
  - 6.30 *The West Tonight* (534)
  - 7.00 *Emmerdale* Lisa finally finds the love and affection she is looking for (7) (3282)
  - 7.30 *Coronation Street* Newly single mother Sally takes stock of her life and makes a surprising decision (7) (718)



Kevin Whately, John Thaw (8.00pm)

- Inspector Morse: Masonic Mysteries** (1991) (7) (7) Followed by *National Lottery Result* (1911)
- 10.00 News at Ten** (7) (92244)
- 10.30 Regional News** (7) (755331)
- 10.40 Best Seller** (1987) with James Woods, Brian Dennehy and Victoria Tennant. A former policeman turned budding writer decides to collaborate with a hired killer to ghost his autobiography. Directed by John Flynn (1816738)
- 12.30 am** *Jody Horowitz Reports* (7696916)
- 12.40 Movie Club** (7648022)
- 1.15 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol** (455954)
- 1.40 Mister Kingstreet's War** (1972) Adventure with John Saxon, Tippi Hendren and directed by Percival Rubens (854003)
- 3.20 News and Jury** (79823041)
- 3.40 P1: Belgian Grand Prix** (6797683)
- 4.35 The Time, the Place** (7078933)
- 5.00 Coronation Street** (46864)
- 5.30 News** (81931)

- As HTV West except:**
- 12.55pm-1.25 *a Country Practice* (1696331)
  - 1.50-3.20 *Phil: Mac About Men* (1200992)
  - 5.10-5.40 *Shortland Street* (2159824)
  - 6.25-7.00 *Central News* (42308)
  - 12.30pm *White Hot — The Mysterious Murder of Thelma Todd* (24949)
  - 2.15 *Emergency!* (7327431)
  - 3.00 *Emergency!* (7327431)
  - 3.30 *The Good Sex Guide* (7673003)
  - 4.25 *Central Jobfinder* (7) (816022)
  - 5.20 *Asian Eye* (576041)
- As HTV West except:**
- 12.55 *Home and Away* (306602)
  - 1.20 *Emmerdale* (702917)
  - 1.50-3.20 *Phil: Carry on Spying* (1230992)
  - 5.10-5.40 *Home and Away* (2159824)
  - 6.00-7.00 *Westcountry Live* (32176)
- As HTV West except:**
- 10.30am *Cartoon Time* (2711379)
  - 10.40 *David the Gnome* (3282596)
  - 11.00 *Cartoon Time* (4197398)
  - 11.25 *BraveStarr* (4173718)
  - 11.50 *Dinosaurs* (9495824)
  - 1.50pm *Summer Crafts* (9641176)
  - 2.20-3.20 *Dr Quinn* (8439331)
  - 5.10-5.40 *Home and Away* (2159824)
  - 6.00 *Meridian Tonight* (282)
  - 6.30-7.00 *The Village* (534)
  - 10.30 *Meridian News and Weather* (779911)
  - 10.45 *The Pier* (792521)
  - 11.15 *Highlander* (192834)
  - 12.10am *Meridian Masterclass* (8815848)
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## SATELLITE AND CABLE



Tim Roth, Quentin Tarantino in *Four Rooms* (Movie Ch, 10pm)

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## CRICKET 40

Who will win the county championship?

# SPORT

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27 1997

## ATHLETICS 41

The running battle against anorexia



Croatia pins high hopes on Zagreb

## Newcastle meet challenge of national pride

By DAVID MADDOCK

IT IS with humour that one of Sir John Hall's lectures about "Newcastle — the mini nation state" is normally greeted. Yesterday, however, his familiar theme proved a little more disconcerting.

If the Newcastle United chairman should ever need proof that football can indeed represent the hopes and ambitions of a community, then it is here in Zagreb. None of this Newcastle Brown Ale Philosophy, wrapped up to represent some sort of extended local pride — Croatia Zagreb really are the focus of their country's immediate political and cultural aims.

The importance of the team can be judged by the decision of Franjo Tudjman, the President of the newly-formed state, to drop Dinamo, and all its communist connotations, and prefix Zagreb with the name of the proud, new nation.

So Croatia Zagreb entertain Newcastle this evening looking to put another marker for the country on to the European map by qualifying for the group stage of the European Cup and tapping all the resultant wealth and acknowledgement that it can generate.

Croatia reached the quarter-finals of the European championship in England last summer to send the people back home into an orbit of unreserved pride, but this is a domestic team that has been recognised in European club competition and success has become something of a requirement for the one million inhabitants of the city.

Victory in the previous round over Partizan Belgrade was monumental enough, given the obvious tensions between Serbs and Croats at present, yet victory over Newcastle would be an even greater achievement, merely for the way in which it would

announce to a wider public the arrival of Croatia.

So to hear Sir John counter Croatian passion with talk of his side "playing for the Georgie nation" appeared slightly distasteful. The chairman did, however, have the grace to concede that the two "nations" he talked about are very different.

"It will be exciting out here, because they really are playing for their nation," he said. "There's a lot of talk about pride and passion out here, and you have got to understand where they are coming from at the moment."

Through football, they are trying to project their nation.



Dalglish: tough task

Soccer is very important to them. It helps them to identify with their homeland. It is the same with us — football has been very important in helping the North East come out of the recession."

As the people of Zagreb will no doubt discover today, it is hard to correlate political freedom with a five-bellied, shaven headed supporter in the black and white uniform of the Newcastle fan. However, Sir John has a point. Politicians throughout Europe have finally grasped the importance of

football to their people and have begun to attempt to harness the publicity it can generate.

Not for Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, such expansive thoughts, though. He recognises the difficulty of travelling to such an intense city, but his fears are based soundly within footballing foundations.

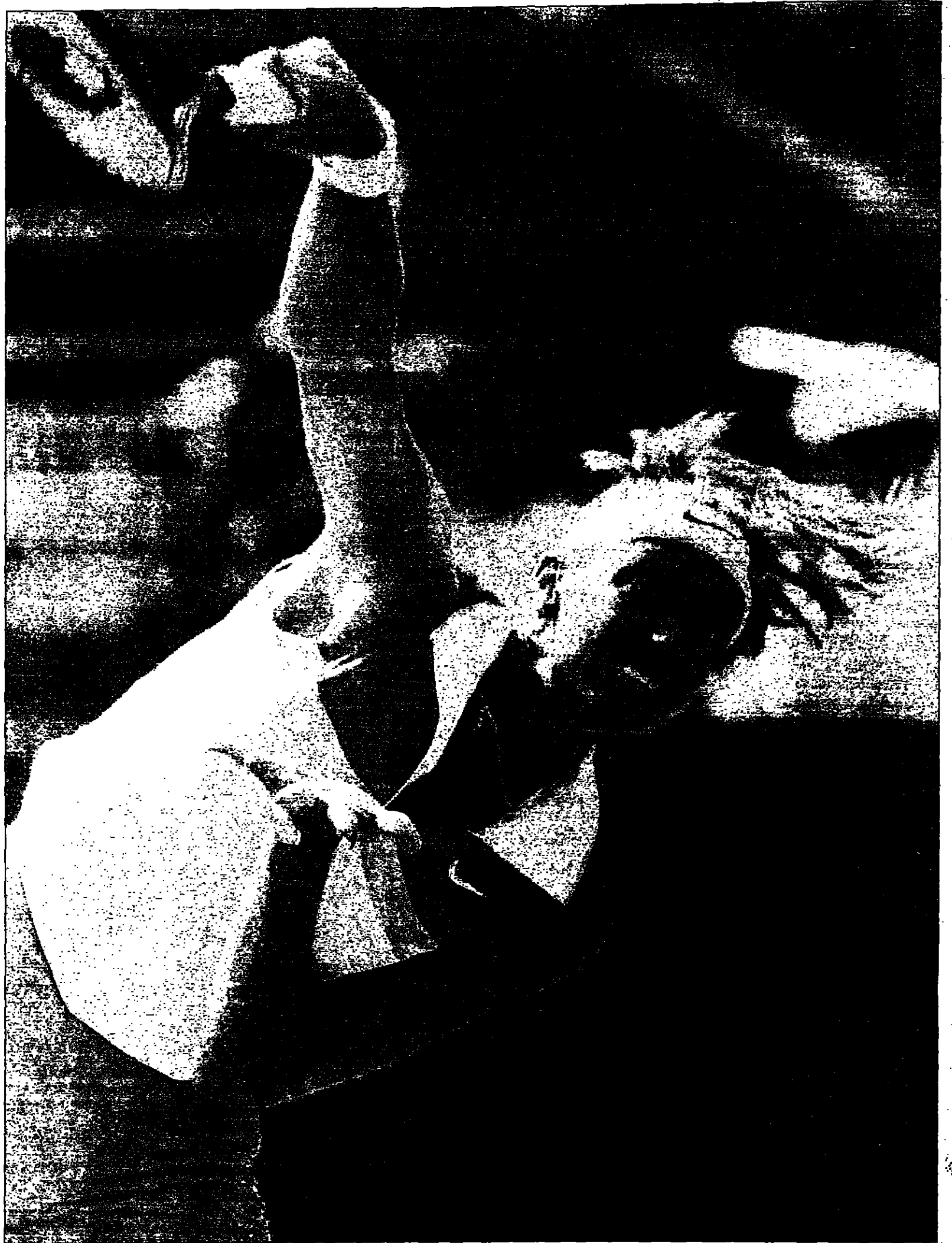
"This Zagreb team is a better one than the Monaco side which knocked us out of the Uefa Cup last season," he said. "They have more quality. They have very dangerous players and we know how good they are."

The quality Dalglish speaks of is most obvious to British observers in the form of Robert Prosinecki, 20, formerly of among others, Barcelona and Real Madrid, before his significant return to Zagreb. The fact that he was brought home from Spain is seen as a huge political gesture out here because the midfielder player was once admired as among the greatest talents in Europe.

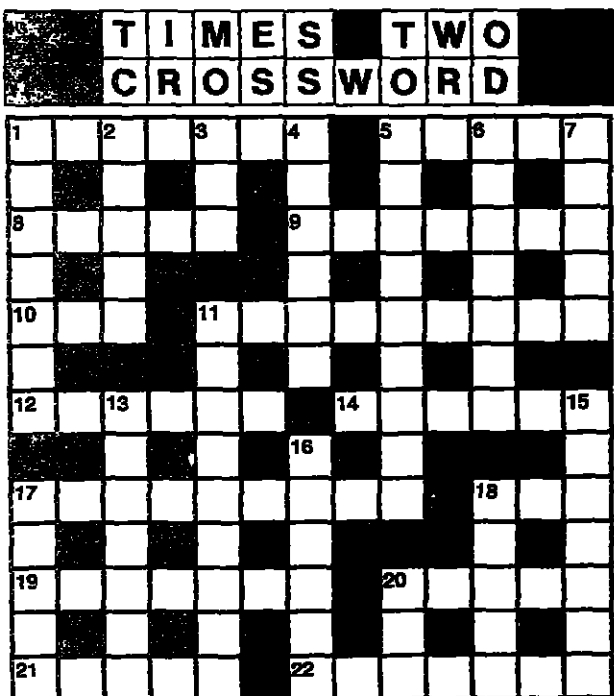
Serious injury has diluted Prosinecki's imposing physical presence, but he still possesses an enviable technique. He also has admirable support from younger players who are likely to follow the same route as him to the very best leagues in Europe. Silvio Maric, 22, whose talent was obvious on the right of midfield in the first leg, won 2-1 by Newcastle, has been promised to Juventus and the defender, Dario Simic, 21, has an agreement with Milan.

Given that Zagreb have the weight of a nation both before and behind them, it looks an impossibly imposing task for Newcastle tonight in the passionate atmosphere of the Maksimir Stadium. But Dalglish refuses to be worried by the passion his side will encounter. "It might well be intimidating, but not as intimidating as the press room after a match," he smiled.

Rampant Rovers, page 38  
Barnsley unbowed, page 38  
Simon Barnes, page 42



Mary Pierce in blistering form at Flushing Meadows yesterday, where she crushed Gigi Fernandez 6-1, 6-2 in the US Open. Report, page 42



- ACROSS**
- 1 Tomahawk (7)
  - 5 Crenney, speed (5)
  - 9 First appearance (5)
  - 10 Ballet solo (3,4)
  - 11 Creeper — Compton Burnett (3)
  - 12 Secretly unglue (envelope) (5,4)
  - 13 NZ port; logarithm inventor (6)
  - 14 Hardened, accustomed (6)
  - 15 Tireless application (9)
  - 16 Pin, croquet post (3)
  - 17 Windmill expression (7)
  - 18 Lover of Daphnis (5)
  - 21 Fish; extract metal (5)
  - 22 Declare (faith); claim (5,4) (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Wall-building Emperor (7)
  - 2 Paddy (5)
  - 3 Success damage (3)
  - 4 Fur cape, stole (6)
  - 5 Bribe for silence (4,5)
  - 6 Cleaner; footballer — Orford (7,4) (5)
  - 7 Resolute (9)
  - 8 Hobby (7)
  - 9 Wander off point (7)
  - 10 Multi-car accident (4-2); amass (4,2)
  - 11 Se. district — Wilson, author (5)
  - 12 One taken at wrist by doctor (5)
  - 13 Call like dove (3)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1182**

ACROSS: 1 Ripe 3 Crackpot 5 Swash 9 Virtuoso 11 Resilience 14 In fits 15 Parade 17 New Orleans 20 Idolatry 21 Join 22 Langleigh 23 Bald

DOWN: 1 Restrain 2 Play safe 4 Raider 5 Cat's cradle 6 Poup 7 Tool 10 Glycerin 12 Paranoia 13 Seasoned 16 Corn 18 Lift 19 Boun

**SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1178**

ACROSS: 2 Harassed 6 Circle 8 Arbour 9 Abandon 10 Ample 12 Unsolvable 16 Motion clip 18 Loden 20 Malaise 21 Venial 22 Cutter 23 Numeracy

DOWN: 1 Big hand 2 Hedonist 3 Aerial 4 Sloop 5 Direct 7 Consonant 11 Merchant 15 Buoyancy 14 Cluster 15 Cloven 17 Unfair 19 Denim

14 PRIZE of a return ticket (travelling economy class to anywhere in BRITAIN) and a domestic or international network is N. 15 PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLANDS domestic network is T. Griffith, Bristol.

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## Serene Rangers face tough task

By KEVIN MCCARRA

THERE can be a certain placidity about the powerless. Rangers, ceased to be masters of their own fate when they lost the first leg of their European Cup preliminary round tie 3-0 to IFK Gothenburg. If there is to be a recovery at Ibrox this evening, the Scottish champions will require the collaboration of a self-destructive performance by the visitors.

Accordingly, there was a calmness yesterday about Rangers, who must already have begun to make the mental adjustment that will prepare them for demolition to the Uefa Cup, the penalty for failure against Gothenburg. The Ibrox side are not in a state of despair and there is encouragement in knowing that Brian Laudrup, who has been ill with chicken-pox for three weeks, will take up some sort of role this evening.

"He is important and it is a big lift to everyone to have him available," Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, said. "Laudrup has not played for a while and it's a dilemma whether he should be named in the team or brought on as a substitute."

Although Laudrup was missing from the first leg, it was not a diminution in creativity that wreaked havoc on Rangers. In that match, Smith's team still looked more gifted than their opponents, but were unable to cope with the drab duties that are required in any match. "The goals we lost there came from a breakdown in teamwork," the manager said, recalling hapless errors in defence.

"The biggest thing for us now will be how the side as a

whole performs, not just the talented individuals. I've never been one to ask the crowd to get behind us. If we cause Gothenburg to become nervous, then the fans can help us by creating a bit of an intimidating atmosphere."

Smith is circumspect because he cannot ignore the difficulties Rangers face. It may not be impossible for his club to overcome the Swedish champions, but it is implausible. Gothenburg generally produce a goal in away legs and, should they do so again tonight, Rangers will need to score five times.

Indeed, Smith, in his six years as manager, has only once seen his side beat European opponents by three goals or more at Ibrox. That happened only last month, but the losers, by a 6-0 margin, were Getafe of the Faeroe Islands. At the weekend, Rangers did beat Dundee United 5-1, but Gothenburg are not expected to be so vulnerable.

Despite the fact that Par Karlsson, who hit the second goal in Gothenburg a fortnight ago, is injured, Mats Jorglund, the coach of the Swedish club, will be confident, knowing that men such as Stefan Pettersson and Teddy Lucic should have the experience to pilot the side through the tie.

Even supporters of Gothenburg recognise that the team has declined since its victories over Manchester United and Barcelona three years ago. Nowadays, in essence, they are just a disciplined band of workaday professionals. Sadly for Rangers, they may not need to be anything more.

## Toms celebrates special flag day

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

WENDY TOMS has heard most of it before. The sly digs about how she should stay at home doing the cooking, how she should go back behind the perfume counter where she belongs, or how she should stick to washing the dishes. As the only woman match official in the Nationwide League and FA Carling Premiership, it is patronising and predictable.

Toms brushes it aside with ease. In the 13 years that it has taken her to progress from the parks to the Premiership, little has faded her. "Some of the most amusing reactions come from the spectators," she said. "Some of their comments are very positive until a decision goes against their team. I'm then treated like all match officials, but it doesn't really worry me. I don't let it affect me."

This evening, Toms, 34, a duty shift manager, from Poole, Dorset, will make the 35-mile trip along the south coast to officiate, as a referee's assistant, in the game between Southampton and Crystal Palace at The Dell. It will be the first time that a woman has infiltrated the previously male-dominated world of the Premiership. And no, she does not share a dressing-room with her colleagues and no, she does not usually encounter a hostile response from the players.

"When I referee, perhaps the players are initially surprised to find a woman in charge," Toms said, "but with the increase in the number of women taking up the whistle, it's no longer such a novelty. In the main, player reaction is no different to when a male colleague is refing, although

there does appear to be slightly less dissent."

Away from the glare of the football spotlight, Toms, a divorcee, retains a low profile, preferring to indulge in her favourite pastimes of fitness training and gardening. Laurence Jones, a fellow League linesman, from Bournemouth, helps ease her through the public relations minefield.

"Wendy is a very private person, she doesn't really like all this fuss," Jones said. "I



Toms: Premiership debut

think where she does so well is that she has no real emotional attachment. She doesn't support any team and can maintain an almost cold, very focused approach. She just loves refereeing."

Jones has coached her for seven years and now acts as her adviser. He is in his third season on the League line. Toms is in her fourth. "My pupil has overtaken me," he said, "but I don't have a problem with that. In fact, I'm very proud of her."

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